MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 FEBRUARY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces launched a new offensive in the mountains of northeast Iraq late on 24 February, capturing 25 villages in the Al-Sulaymaniyah region and inflicting "large numbers" of casualties on the enemy, Iran announced in a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio.

Meanwhile, Iraq's Voice of the Masses radio reported further Iraqi successes against the Iranian forces in Al-Faw, stating that the Iraqis "tightened their siege of the invading forces" during battles on 24 February and that the central Iraqi column recaptured several more kilometers, wiping out "thousands" more Iranians. An Iraqi communique carried by the radio acknowledged the loss of an Iraqi aircraft 24 February, while Tehran radio said the tally of Iraqi warplanes shot down since 9 February had risen to 60.

Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani commented on Iran's antiaircraft defenses in remarks reported by Tehran radio, contending that Iran's SAM system is capable of shooting down "the most sophisticated Russian aircraft." Although France supplied Iraq with sophisticated equipment capable of jamming the radars linked to Iran's SAM's, he said, Iran adopted measures to render this equipment useless and "our older missiles keep shooting down planes like leaves." Hashemi-Rafsanjani subsequently told the Majlis that the UN Security Council resolution on the Iran-Iraq war is "ineffective and shallow," according to IRNA, which also cited President 'Ali Khamene'i's statement that the resolution is unacceptable because of its failure to condemn Iraq.

Iranian OPEC Proposals

Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan has said the Kingdom is reviewing Iran's recommendations concerning the suspension of OPEC oil exports and will make an appropriate decision, Iranian Foreign Ministry Political Under Secretary Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam stated in remarks reported by Tehran radio following his meeting with Prince Sultan in Riyadh. In a related development, the Iranian oil minister discussed the oil market situation during talks with UAE officials in Abu Dhabi, according to Abu Dhabi radio.

Libya

The Lebanese newspaper *AL-SAFIR* published an interview with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in which the Libyan leader disclosed that Libya recently planned an air strike against an Israeli target but called the attack off at the 11th hour "because we thought it was a limited operation." Libya had wanted to be the target of some kind of Israeli raid, Al-Qadhdhafi stated, because this would have meant war and would have entitled Libya to stage continuous military operations against Israel. He added that Libya does not intend to give up its decision to chase Israeli planes, warning that "we will get them at some point."

On the situation in Chad, Al-Qadhdhafi maintained that Libya was unaware of the GUNT offensive until after it had taken place and this made Libya refrain from giving GUNT leader Goukouni Oueddei any assistance. Goukouni launched the offensive "of his own accord" at a time when his relations with Libya were "at an ebb," Al-Qadhdhafi claimed. As for Arab relations, the Libyan leader predicted a declaration of union with Algeria "within the next few months" and he also said Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is expected to visit Libya soon to proclaim "a form of advanced union."

PLO

Palestinian leaders and organizations in the occupied territory continue to "reject and denounce" King Husayn's decision to halt political coordination with the PLO, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. In a related statement carried by the radio, PNC members in Baghdad welcomed PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's rejection of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and denounced "desperate attempts" to split the cohesion between the PLO and the Palestinian people. Meanwhile, a Palestinian source in Amman cited by Radio Monte Carlo disclosed that the PLO leadership is holding intensive contacts with opposition factions like the DFLP prior to formulating an official reply to King Husayn's 19 February speech. In a separate development, ANATOLIA announced that 'Arafat will visit Ankara this week.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Arab Parliamentarians Condemn Iranian Offensive

LD242052 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1835 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait 23 Feb (KUNA) — Speakers and deputies of Arab parliaments have condemned the recent Iranian attack against Iraq. In a statement issued here today they highly praised the stand of the Iraqi Armed Forces, the sacrifice of the Iraqi people and the wisdom of its leadership.

They called on the international community to shoulder its responsibilities and to put an immediate end to the war. The text of the statement follows:

We speakers and deputies of Arab parliaments of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the UAE, the Republic of Tunisia, the Republic of Djibouti, the Republic of Somalia, the Republic of Iraq, Palestine, the Kingdom of Morocco, the State of Kuwait and the Yemen Arab Republic, who are sharing with brotherly Kuwait its commemoration of festivities marking the 25th anniversary of independence and the inauguration of the new Kuwaiti national assembly premises, follow with concern and disapproval the development of the situation resulting from the recent Iranian attack against brotherly Iraq.

The occupation of a part of the south of Iraq is considered a blatant violation of international law and a dangerous escalation of the course of this regrettable war, and an undermining of international and regional efforts aimed at realizing a peaceful, just, comprehensive and unconditional settlement of this armed conflict, and undermining peace and stability in the Arabian Gulf region and internationally.

Despite Iraq's continuous willingness to put an end to the fighting and to enter into peaceful negotiations, and to accept the resolutions of the Security Council, the Nonaligned Movement and the ICO, it is regrettable that Iran keeps rejecting these efforts and peaceful endeavors. Therefore, on behalf of our National assemblies we condemn the recent Iranian attack against Iraq... and we proudly pay tribute to the stand of the Iraqi Armed Forces, the sacrifice of its people and the (?wisdom) of its leadership. We express our effective and brotherly support for the fraternal country of Iraq in defending its territory and sovereignty and the security and dignity of the Arab nations.

The speakers and deputies of Arab parliaments, in abiding by the resolutions of their unity and as a manifestation of the will of their peoples, call on Arab governments, political forces and popular unions to support Iraq with all the potentials and means as confirmation of the unity of pan-Arab struggle until the Iranian side agrees to negotiate and put an end to the war and solve the issue peacefully.

They call on the international community to shoulder its responsibilities in putting an immediate end to the war, which has lasted 67 months without any justification despite its heavy human and material losses, and to bring it to an end in a way that would guarantee the rights of both sides and prevent any interference in their internal affairs.

A united Arab stand, a pan-Arab solidarity and the implementation of the Arab League Charter, the Joint Defense Treaty and the resolution of the Fes summit are the ideal way to counter the challenges, safeguard the present and future of the Arab nation from the dangers of aggression and occupation, and to direct all the energies against our historic enemy as represented in imperialism and Zionism. With the help and will of God, we are confident in Iraq's victory because it is right and just; injustice and aggression will be defeated without fail. May Arab martyres immortally rest in paradise and in the memory of the Arab nation.

PLO Rejects Proposals to Form Government in Exile

GF241055 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Feb (WAKH) — The PLO has rejected Arab proposals to form a government in exile which would be responsible for coordinating the positions between Jordan and the PLO so that the PLO would avoid the political annoyance resulting from recognizing Resolution 242 since it is a revolutionary movement.

Quoting Arab diplomatic sources, the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* said today that Jordan asked the PLO to announce the formation of a government in exile during negotiations that took place this month in Amman and through many Arab countries, yet the PLO has stressed that the current conditions do not permit the formation of such a government which would thus be asked to run the negotiations in coordination with Jordan and the U.S. Government. These sources added that Jordan tried anew to revive the idea of a government in exile after the Jordanian monarch announced his abandonment of political action with the PLO. King Husayn made this request through the Arab countries which mediate between Jordan and the PLO, including Egypt.

The Arab sources indicated that the PLO again rejected this proposal and stressed that it would remain the sole and the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The PLO also asserted that the issue of forming a government in exile would be settled only when suitable objective conditions come about and provided that a PNC — which enjoys the unanimous support of all Palestinian resistance movement factions — ratifies it.

It is well-known that the idea of forming a Palestinian government in exile came to the surface as a result of joint Arab efforts that tried to make the PLO form this government — provided that Palestinians from the PLO, Palestinians from the occupied territories, and other independent personalities take part. This proposal, which is still being made to the PLO, has been rejected unanimously by the Palestinian leadership.

Palestinian Contacts Intensify After Husayn Speech

JN241712 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] An informed Palestinian source in Amman said today that the PLO command is exerting intensive efforts on opposition factions before replying to King Husayn's decision to suspend political coordination with the PLO command and that several secret contacts have taken place between the Fatah movement

and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine in Prague and that other contacts will take place in Moscow during the CPSU Congress which will convene 24 February.

'Arafat Comments on Relations With USSR, U.S.

GF241256 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 23 Feb 86 p 23

[Report on interview with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, by correspondent Ahmad Hamrush in Baghdad — date not given]

[Excerpt] [Ahmad Hamrush] There is talk and rumor about the relations of the organization and yours personally with the USSR. How do you view that?

[Yasir 'Arafat] I hope there are good rumors. We are very keen on our friendship with the Soviets. Our relations with the USSR witnessed many changes following our departure from Beirut. They were also affected by the events in the Palestinian arena and the conflicts with Syria. Palestinian-Soviet relations have seen many positive changes recently. Currently there are continuous contacts on more than one level between us and our friends the Soviets. However, on the opposite side stands the U.S. Administration which refuses to recognize the PLO and denies the Palestinian people their right for self-determination, while it fully supports Israel.

[Hamrush] Once in Cairo you considered as positive a statement by a U.S. official announcing that there is a difference between UN Resolution 242 and the problem of the Palestinian people. Do you think that this is the best stance to be announced by the U.S. administration?

['Arafat] It is an advanced U.S. stance. It is the first time that the Americans admit that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people must be included in UN Resolution 242. This is better than all their statements which deny the rights of our people.

'Arafat Holds Dialogue With AL-AHRAM 20 Feb

PM241639 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 20 Feb 86 p 13

["Dialogue" with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, attended on the Palestinian side by Mahmud 'Abbas, Hani al-Hasan, Dr Nabil Sha'th, Muhammad Subayh, Tayyib 'abd al-Rahim, Hakam Bal'awi, 'Imad Shaqqur, Zuhdi al-Qudrah, and Khalid Salam; and on the Egyptian side by political party Representatives Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, of the NDP, Dr Wahid Ra'fat, of the Al-Wafd Party, Dr Hilmi Murad, of the Socialist Labor Party, and Dr Muhammad Akhmad Khalafallah and Dr Samir Fayyad, of the NPUG Party, and by *AL-AHRAM* writers Salamah Ahmad Salmah, Al-Sayyid Yasin, Ihsan Bakr, and Husayn Sha'lan and Lutfi al-Khuli as moderator of the dialogue — in *AL-AHRAM*'s office in Cairo on 18 February.

[Excerpts] Yasir 'Arafat; We have achieved yet another important goal. the wonderful Palestinian national unity between our people inside and outside the occupied territories. If anybody were to point out to me the problem of differences between Palestinian organizations, I would draw his attention to what I have said about unity between our people inside and outside the occupied territories. Richard Murphy tried four times to create a rift between our people inside and outside the occupied territories; British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe tried once, and Roland Dumas tried once. The three of them tried to persuade leaders in the occupied territories to form a Palestinian delegation without the PLO. The answer in all the cases without exception was: Our political leadership is the PLO. We are meeting with you only in order to submit to you our views on problems we are confronting and the suppression and coercion we suffer. When the Israelis failed to get what they wanted, they resorted to terrorism; they attempted to assassinate the Palestinian leadership in Tunis. I would not say that the raid was a total failure, but it failed in achieving the principal objective, which was to murder the Palestinian leadership.

When I disappeared for 2 and 1/2 hours U.S. participation in the operation was established. The Americans began defending themselves and McFarlane who made the decision resigned. But where was McFarlane before he resigned? Was he not the U.S. national security adviser? When we said that the Israelis used photographs taken by U.S. satellites, they said that this was true but that the pictures were leaked through Pollard, the Israeli spy. In the beginning, the Americans tried to deny their role but we silenced them with the report made by the commander of the Italian fleet in southern Italy.

When their attempts failed, they tried to pressure us in respect to the question of the international conference, stressing the need to recognize Resolutions 242 and 338. When they failed to get this recognition from us through war, the creation of dissent, and assassination, they sought to get it with the help of Arab political pressures.

Of course, we are committed to the Jordanian-Palestinian accord. King Husayn for his part declared that he is committed to this accord. We are prepared to act within this accord and nobody can ask us to do more than we have done. I would like to say in this regard that our theory is not based on one-upmanship. We say yes to an international conference and are ready to attend it if we are invited, but only if the conference can be effective. This is because the Americans want the conference to be merely a conference of good offices, mediation, and conciliation.

As for the Israelis, they say it would merely meet for a day under the auspices and in the presence of the Security Council member-states after which it will disband. The conference would meet again at the end of the direct negotiations, expected to last 2 years. But we want an effective conference to be attended by all permanent members of the Security Council and not just the United States. We appreciate the Soviet Union's role and have confidence in it. At the same time we cannot trust those who tried to kill us in Tunis, to massacre us in Beirut, and continue to occupy our land in Palestine. The adversary cannot be a judge. Therefore, the permanent members of the Security Council must participate effectively in the conference.

But then again they go back to alleging that we have rejected Resolution 242 because of Soviet pressure, forgetting our long-standing attitude — that we cannot deal with Resolution 242

because it treats our people's problem as a refugee problem and not as a problem of a people who have a right to a nation. For this reason we insist on an effective international conference in the Security Council to which the PLO be invited on equal footing within a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in order to discuss the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination on the basis of all the resolutions issued by the Security Council and the General Assembly, including Resolutions 242 and 338 because international legitimacy is indivisible; international legitimacy is but one integrated whole.

Unfortunately, the Americans have turned down three draft proposals. Dr Hasan al-Zayyat took part in drafting one of them when he was visiting Jordan. There is an affinity between us and him. He is a former Egyptian foreign minister and was at the United Nations for a long time. We consulted him on the matter. Before we discussed this draft, it was taken to the king by Dr Al-Sharaydah, a Jordanian friend. The king in his turn added a few things and made some alterations, but the Americans deny that I have submitted any drafts.

Lutfi al-Khuli: Is it possible to disclose these drafts?

Yasir 'Afafat: No, we will not blow them out of proportion. But we will submit to the Egyptian parties papers on this subject that will include official documents relating to them.

Unfortunately, the present Arab situation enables the United States to single us out. We find no practical support except from Egypt and Iraq.

Thus we had long discussions with King Husayn and formulated the drafts to which I have just referred, but the Americans rejected them completely without offering an alternative to them. Instead they tried to put the blame on us — either we recognize Resolution 242 or there will be no invitation to the PLO. I have learned from the Soviet ambassador in Cairo that the Americans have not yet discussed with them any form of international conference, contrary to what we have been told about U.S.-Soviet talks on the international conference being under way.

BAHRAIN

Algerian Foreign Minister Conveys Message to Amir

F241210 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1125 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid pertaining to bilateral relations and exchange of views on issues of concern to the two countries. The message was conveyed by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi during an audience with his highness the amir today.

The audience was attended by Heir Apparent and acting Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah; Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah; Interior Minister Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah; and Al-Hasnaoui Khaldi, Algerian ambassador to Bahrain.

Amir Receives ICO Secretary General

GF221104 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0940 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, 22 Feb (WAKH) — Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, today received in Manama Sharifuddin Pirzada, ICO secretary general, who is currently visiting Bahrain. The audience was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, minister of foreign affairs; and Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, minister of interior.

After the meeting, Pirzada said that he reviewed with the amir of Bahrain the recent escalation in the Iraq-Iran war, and current developments in the Lebanese and Middle East crises, particularly the Jerusalem issue. He also reviewed with the amir of Bahrain issues of the Muslim world and the ICO's efforts to promote these issues. He said he sensed from the amir all understanding and response toward all issues which were discussed in the field of cooperation and coordination among Muslim countries.

Foreign Minister Receives Official

GF221112 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah received in his office at the ministry at 1030 today Sharifuddin Pirzada, ICO secretary general. The meeting was attended by 'Ali Ibrahim al-Mahrus, director of the Political Department; and Ibrahim 'Ali Ibrahim, ambassador at the Foreign Ministry's Secretariat.

WAKH has learned that during the meeting which lasted 90 minutes, they discussed the outcome of the meeting of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers which was held in Morocco from 4 to 10 January and the issues which were discussed, the resolutions which were adopted, and the efforts being made to implement them. They also discussed the ICO's efforts to prepare for the Islamic summit which will be held in Kuwait in March 1987. They also discussed the need to support the ICO's activities and increase the ICO's efficiency so that it can play a constructive and efficient role on political and economic issues of the Muslim world and the need to expand and develop relations among Muslim countries to serve their interests.

WAKH also has learned that the foreign minister and Pirzada reviewed the new escalation in the Iraq-Iran war. They expressed deep concern over this serious escalation between the two Muslim countries because they are ICO members. They also affirmed the need to increase the efficiency of the role the ICO should play through the Islamic Good Offices Committee in stopping this devastating war.

They also discussed the new Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon and developments in the Middle East issue, particularly the issue of occupied Jerusalem.

KUWAIT

Official, Iranian Envoy Discuss Regional Issues

LD241443 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1402 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Feb (KUNA) — Today the acting foreign under secretary, Faysal al-Salih al-Mutawwa', met the charge d'affaires at the Iranian Embassy in Kuwait, Mohammad Reza Baqeri.

During the meeting the discussion concentrated on the developments of events in the region and on the Iraq-Iran war, and on Arab and international efforts to achieve the best results and to set matters right in the interests of the two neighboring Islamic peoples.

AL-WATAN: PDRY Minister on Relations With YAR

GF242019 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 23 Feb 86 p 17

[Fadyah al-Zu'bi dispatch from Aden]

[Excerpt] Following the 13 January massacre in the PDRY, the seizure of power by the opponents of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, and the subsequent changes in the YSP Central Committee, a kind of concern prevailed among the Yemeni circles, especially over the fate of the previous efforts aimed at uniting the two parts of Yemen. These efforts had covered a lot of ground before and after the regime of Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. There are fears regarding these efforts as the terrible events coincided with the presence of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad in Sanaa more than once while his opponents were seizing power in the PDRY.

In an interview *AL-WATAN* carried these fears to Rashid Muhammad Thabit, minister of state for the Yemeni unity affairs in the new government, who held the portfolio of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism in the former government.

First, the minister said that the recent events at first created some confusion in the process of rapprochement between the two parts of Yemen. However, he added that the developments which have followed since then have proved that the Yemeni brothers in the northern part, led by 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, have acted with nationalist responsibility. They proved their utmost concern for

the unity of the Yemeni people. Their attitude was greatly appreciated by the PDRY leaders. The minister expressed optimism in achieving further rapprochement between the two parts of Yemen while assuming his new responsibility. He affirmed that there are leading elements in both parts of Yemen who are sincere and loyal to the Yemeni homeland and people. He said that these leaders will not be dragged into the calls which aim to create further tragedies and pains to the Yemeni people. The Yemeni blood and the lives offered before and after the 26 September revolution and until the past few days in the southern part of Yemen increase our conscious responsibilities which realize Yemeni people's aspirations to achieve progress and prosperity, and to end the state of backwardness, ignorance, and disease, from which the Yemeni people have suffered over many centuries.

The PDRY minister of state for Yemeni unity affairs said he is certain that leaders of the northern part of the country have more understanding and loyalty to the cause of their people and to the ambitions of the Yemeni individual who rallies around every patriotic leadership which is concerned about the unity of the people and the country, and about evading what leads to further tragedies from which our people have long suffered.

Referring to the numerous joint projects between the two parts of Yemen, the minister said that the latest statements of the Central Committee, Political Bureau, Supreme People's Council Presidium, and Council of Ministers, and the statements made by the PDRY officials have asserted continuation of bolstering relations between the two parts of Yemen, and adherence to all agreements signed earlier. They also called for joint action to achieve Yemeni unity on democratic and sound bases.

He added that these statements stem from adherence by the leadership to the resolutions passed by the Central Committee. These resolutions were taken unanimously within the framework of the party. As is known, the decisions passed are not made by one individual. They are passed as a result of discussion and collective consent in the party. Therefore, the joint projects will still be viewed as one of the basic pillars for achieving Yemeni unity.

The minister believes that the PDRY trend is toward expanding these numerous joint projects in various agricultural, industrial, information, and cultural fields. The PDRY trend is also toward developing coordination between the two parts of Yemen in order to establish pillars of united action.

PDRY

USSR Envoy Conveys Leaders Message to Al-'Attas

GF231305 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 23 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received at his office today Comrade Vladislav Zhukov, USSR ambassador in Aden, who conveyed to him a message from the Soviet leaders dealing with cooperation relations between the two friendly countries and the means to develop them.

During the meeting Brother Al-'Attas affirmed that the developing relations linking the two friendly countries in various fields is continuously consolidated in light of the friendship and cooperation treaty signed by the two countries. He also said that this relationship is deep and strategic.

The Soviet ambassador affirmed that the Soviet Union will continue its aid to our country in the various fields on the basis of the spirit and objectives of the struggle relations between the two friendly countries.

Finance Minister Receives USSR Official

GF241844 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Mahmud Sa'id Mahdi, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of finance, met this morning with Comrade (Denar) Kadyrov, economic counselor at the USSR Embassy in Aden. During the meeting, they reviewed the developing relations between the two friendly countries. Brother Mahdi evaluated the honest Soviet aid to our country in all fields, especially the quick aid following the bloody events of the aborted coupist attempt.

Energy Minister Receives Official

GF242022 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the YSP Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and minister of energy and minerals, today met in his office with comrade (Denar) Kadyrov, economic counselor at the USSR Embassy in Aden. During the meeting, they discussed economic cooperation between the two countries in the fields of energy and minerals, coordination of the means of searching and exploring natural resources in the Shabwah area, and coordination of the gold molds project in Mathna Valley in Hadramawt Governorate. They affirmed the importance of implementing the project as scheduled.

The Soviet economic counselor affirmed the importance of increasing the activities of the Soviet experts in the projects which have been agreed upon, according to the agreements signed between the two friendly countries. He also affirmed the importance of implementing those projects as scheduled.

Abyan Rally Held To Commemorate Martyrs

GF241950 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] A mass rally was held in Ruqud area in Abyan Governorate yesterday celebrating the victory achieved by the YSP in crushing the futile 13 January coupist plot.

During the rally, brother Muhammad Haydarah Masdus, candidate member of the Political Bureau and first secretary of the YSP organization committee in the governorate, delivered a speech. He conveyed the greetings snd congratulations of the YSP organization secretariat on the crushing of the plot planned and led by the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his gang. He also paid tribute to the pure souls of the martyrs of Ruqud area, formost of whom is the struggler martyr Thabit 'Awad al-Fugayh, who fell in defense of the party, revolution, and constitutional legitimacy and for the progressive system in our country.

Brother Masdus reviewed the destructive means and acts which were perpetrated by the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, who created power centers within the government, weakened its social missions, and emptied it of its class content. His ill conscience made him believe that he was able to harm or reward whoever he wanted.

He [Masdus] explained a number of the practices of the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique, the latest of which was the implementation of the abortive coupist attempt on 13 January, and his physical liquidation of the historical and experienced leaders of our YSP. He said that due to this vile conspiracy, most of the distinguished, honest, and loyal leaders of the party and our country were killed, foremost of whom are the following struggler martyrs: 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, Salih Muslih Wasim, and 'Ali Sha'i' Hadi.

Brother Masdus called on the party organizations and the popular organizations in the governorate to speed up the organization of their situations, to begin making plans for 1986, and to exert efforts to implement the upcoming duties.

The speech of the party at Ruqud reviewed the sacrifices made by the sons of the sub-district, stating that the sons of the region rushed out during the first moment of the statement on the coup attempt to defend the line of the party. A great number of the sons of the sub-district were martyred while trying to consolidate the legitimacy of the party and the Constitution and to defend the progressive national system in our country.

At the rally, a speech by the families of the martyrs was delivered. It states that the martyrdom of the group of strugglers will not make us cry, but will make us proud of the heroic deeds made in the course of the revolution to counter the enemies of the party and the homeland.

Arab Parliamentary Chairman Departs for Kuwait

GF211730 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Ahmad al-Sallami, secretary of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, chairman of the committee for foreign relations, and chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union, left Aden today for Kuwait on an official visit expected to last several days. This visit comes in response to an invitation he received from his brother Kuwaiti National Assembly Chairman Ahmad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'dun to participate in the inauguration of the Kuwaiti National Assembly's new building.

SAUDI ARABIA

Oil Ministry Statement Defines Oil Policy

LD222155 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] A statement by the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

There has been an increasing number of talks and prophesies recently about the true Saudi petroleum policy and its alleged role in the current deteriorating situation. It has become a duty to issue a statement that will explain this policy's true nature and dot the i's.

First, we have to recall that the continuing fall in consumption, as a result of large price increases for many consecutive times accompanied by continuing annual increase in the production of oil exporting countries outside OPEC, has led to a continued drop in the OPEC share of the petroleum market. Thus, the financial situation of OPEC member-countries was affected and they were forced to give discounts on the specified price of their petroleum in order to [words indistinct].

Other OPEC member-countries were forced to disregard the shares alloted to them by giving bigger discounts; average prices began to collapse; and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom was the only member of the organization whose production fell to half and exports fell to one-third due to its adherence to official prices. Other member-countries marketed their petroleum either by discounting prices, by owning refineries to refine their petroleum and selling it as products not subjected to OPEC pricing, or because some of their petroleum production is not subject to OPEC pricing.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was open with its colleagues in the organization regarding the difficulty of continuing with the aforementioned situation and on numerous occasions (?pointed out) in various and clear ways that it would be forced to follow suit unless all situations are rectified. When the majority of OPEC member-countries were unable to stop their aforementioned behavior due to the pressure of their difficult financial circumstances, and the refusal of the rest of producers outside the organization to give part of their share of the market, there was no alternative to adopting a selling policy that conformed with market prices, and enabled us to sell our share or close to it. We regarded this as a cautious and firm policy aimed at safeguarding prices from a collapse from which no one would have been spared its dire consequences. Nearly 3 months have passed after selling at market linked prices without the Saudi behavior having any negative effects on prices which maintained their levels and even continued rising.

When the OPEC ministerial council adopted a unanimous decision calling for the organization's adherence to a fair share of the market during its conference in Geneva in early December 1985,

speculation started to push prices down. Everyone became convinced that unless producers outside OPEC amend their policy and abandon some markets which they took away from OPEC, there will be a surplus in the market and this will push prices down.

Some newspapers and articles began to forget all the clear facts and tried to portray the situation as the work of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom. Others were even more exaggerated by stressing that the Kingdom had an interest in what was happening and that it was conspiring in collusion with some major industrial powers against the market. And because of all this, it has become imperative to issue a statement which confirms the following facts:

One: What happened was the result of circumstances imposed on all for reasons which we explained in the past and which are beyond the control of any government which finds its revenue rapidly declining causing a budget deficit that cannot be accepted or tolerated.

Two: What happened will cause harm to all the oil exporting states including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its fraternal GCC states. It will also cause consumers short and long term harm.

Three: For there to be an end to the deteriorating situation, producers from outside OPEC must cooperate with the OPEC member-states, because it has become clear that the latter cannot, on their own, bear the burden of defending the prices structure.

Four: The kingdom will not abandon its policy adopted since the early seventies which rejects quick upward and downward fluctuations in oil prices. Our past positions are known when we opposed the repeated price rises that led to our present situation. Our subsequent positions are also known when we agreed to cut our production down from 10 million barrels to about 2 million barrels, and as a result the wheels of economy nearly stopped in our country.

It would not be fair for the Kingdom to distort facts and present an incorrect picture of the situation and perhaps what was said by the Venezuelan Energy Ministry and chairman of OPEC to Saudi television, during his excellency's recent visit to Riyadh, is the best proof to the truth of our positions.

Five: The Kingdom is strenuously striving to correct the situation and to return prices to their acceptable and just levels. It puts its hand in the hand of anyone who is sincerely seeking to protect the economies of our peoples from great damage, and protect the international community from yet another energy crisis in the near future.

GCC Foreign Ministers Committee to Meet 1, 2 Mar

GF241419 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 24 Feb (SPA) — The meetings of the 18th session of the GCC foreign ministers' ministerial committee will be held at the GCC Secretariat headquarters on Saturday and Sunday.

Dr 'Abdallah al-Jasir, information director at the GCC Secretariat, said that the agenda of the session, which will last for 2 days, includes a review of the phases of the implementation of the resolutions adopted by their majesties and highnesses, the GCC leaders, during the sixth GCC summit in Muscat, on Gulf and Arab levels and on the developments of the current situation in the region.

Deputy Prime Minister Chairs Cabinet Session

GF241835 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 24 Feb (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, chaired the Cabinet session held today, Monday.

Following the session, Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir told SPA that the Cabinet first reviewed the current situation on the Arab and international levels in light of recent political, security, and economic events.

The minister said that His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz talked about recent military reports on developments in the Gulf war and progress in the current battles in the al-Faw region.

His royal highness described the current situation in the region as delicate and serious. His royal highness also briefed the Cabinet on the efforts which are being exerted by His Majesty King Fahd ib 'Abd al-'Aziz and by his royal highness the crown prince, in order to: continue the diligent and intensified efforts to mend the split among the fraternal Arab countries; to unify the joint concept to confront the threats resulting from the war between the two fraternal Muslim countries, Iraq and Iran; and to find the means to quickly end those threats in order to safeguard the security and safety of the region, and consequently find the proper atmosphere to achieve Arab solidarity which will preserve the Arab nation's strength and dignity.

The Cabinet also approved a number of appointments, including the information minister's request for the appointment of Badr Karim as SPA director general with grade 14.

Deputy Defense Minister Receives Iranian Official

GF241804 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1745 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Feb (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, received at his palace today Hosayn Sheykholeslam, Iranian political under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, who is currently visiting the Kingdom.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Thunayyan.

UAE

Reportage on Visit by Iranian Oil Minister

Received by Counterpart

GF241126 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] His Excellency Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, petroleum and natural resources minister, met in his office today with His Excellency Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, Iranian oil minister, who is currently paying a visit to the country.

Following the meeting the Iranian oil minister said that his talks with His Excellency Dr al-'Utaybah touched on all oil issues in the current stage. He added that the results of these talks, which focused on the various subjects of the oil markets, will be felt in the next OPEC meeting to be held in March in Geneva. The meeting was attended by Mostafa Fumani Ha'eri, Iranian ambassador to the UAE.

Received by Deputy Prime Minister

GF241812 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] This afternoon Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan received Iranian Oil Minister Gulam Reza Aqazadeh and the delegation accompanying him. The delegation is currently visiting the UAE. Present were Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, and Mostafa Fumani Ha'eri, Iranian ambassador to the UAE. The Iranian minister conveyed the greetings of Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi to Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations, the oil market situation in light of the decline in oil prices, and the efforts being exerted to contain the ongoing oil market crisis.

His Highness Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad asserted the importance of finding the means to end price fluctuations and the need for solidarity among OPEC countries to put an end to the decline in oil prices.

They also discussed developments in the Iraq-Iran war in light of the recent escalation. Shaykh Hamdan stressed the importance of ending this war, which only serves the enemies of the Islamic nation, and the importance of maintaining security and stability in the Gulf region.

Discusses Oil Issues

GF240800 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0645 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Feb (WAM) — Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh has said that his country intends to take part, in association with Libya and Algeria, in a joint meeting of OPEC and non-OPEC countries, even if not all the OPEC and non-OPEC countries take part.

In a statement to the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* published today, he stressed that the situation currently confronting the OPEC entails a frank and serious exchange of views among the members in order to attain good and useful results. The Iranian official indicated that during his current visit to the UAE he will hold talks with Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utayban on the situation in the petroleum market prior to the extraordinary OPEC meeting which is due to be held in March. He added that his current visit to the UAE takes place in implementation of what was agreed upon with Dr al-'Utaybah when they met during the OPEC sessions which were held in Geneva in December 1985.

Reiterates Oil Policy

GF241438 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Iranian Oil Minister Gulam Reza Aqazadeh has reiterated his country's stand calling for lowering Iran's oil production to zero in cooperation with Algeria and Libya.

In a statement following his meeting this morning with Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, the Iranian oil minister said: There are other countries willing to cooperate with his country in this respect.

Referring to the level to which the prices can drop if other countries do not cooperate with Iran, Libya, and Algeria in their treatment of the oil market situation, the Iranian oil minister said that there is a favorable basis on which a number of other oil-producing countries can cooperate with Tehran. He said that if Western countries are working toward decreasing oil prices, the aim of his country is to maintain the prices at the required level.

In a statement published today in the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, Gulam Reza Aqazadeh asserted that the circumstances currently facing OPEC require a serious and open exchange of views among OPEC members in order to each good and useful results.

Ends Visit; Departs

GF242008 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1950 GMT 23 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Feb (WAKH) — His Excellency Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, Iranian oil minister, left Abu Dhabi this evening after a 2-day visit to the UAE, during which he held talks with Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources.

WAM has reported that the talks covered the various aspects of the current situation in the oil market and the efforts exerted to remedy the situation in the market and to achieve some sort of cooperation between OPEC member states before the OPEC conference, which will be held in Geneva next March.

Officials Meet Iranian Foreign Ministry Envoy
GF211613 Doha QNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Feb (WNA) — Shaykh Saqr ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of Ra's al-Khaymah, today received Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, director general of the Political Affairs Directorate for Arab and African countries at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, who is visiting the UAE.

Shaykh Hamid ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of 'Ajman also received Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani.

Abu Dhabi radio did not say anything about what took place during the two meetings.

Delegation Departs for Libya 24 Feb
GF250657 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Brother 'Ali Muqbil Ghusayn, chief of the central organ for control and accounting and member of the Standing Committee, left for Tripoli today. He leads a standing committee and General People's Congress delegation to take part in the meetings of the General People's Congress in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah scheduled to begin tomorrow in Benghazi.

Greek Prime Minister Papandreou Begins 3-Day Visit

Arrives in Cairo

NC241307 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou arrived in Cairo today on a 3-day official visit to Egypt. During his stay, he will be received by President Husni Mubarak. He will conduct talks with Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi on issues of mutual concern, the situation in the Middle East, and the role of Greece and the EC in the Middle East peace process. Bilateral relations will also be discussed. Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi was among those who welcomed the Greek guest at Cairo Airport.

Papandreou on Goals of Visit

NC241647 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Upon arrival in Cairo today, Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou made a statement in which he said he is looking forward to meeting with President Husni Mubarak during his visit. He added that talks between Greece and Egypt would deal with Middle Eastern problems. He stressed his country's support for the Palestinian people's struggle to establish a national homeland. The Greek prime minister noted that his discussions would cover intenational developments that might affect the situation in the Middle East, bilateral relations, and ways of promoting them.

Papandreou stated that Greece attaches special importance to Egypt's role in the Middle East, as it is the heart of the Arab world. He declared that his country backs the proposals that President Mubarak set forth at the European Council. He pointed out that stronger relations between Egypt and Greece would lead to a more stable situation in the region.

Economic, Technical Pact Signed

NC241934 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1850 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 24 Feb (MENA) — Egypt and Greece today signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement. The agreement was signed on behalf of Egypt by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation. It was signed on behalf of Greece by Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias. The signing ceremony was attended by the prime ministers of the two countries.

This agreement seeks to promote cooperation in the fields of trade, industry, tourism, transport, communications, maritime transport, ship building, and fishing. The agreement provides for the establishment of a joint ministerial committee to facilitate the implementation of this agreement. The committee will meet alternately in Cairo and Athens each year.

Lutfi, Papandreou Meet

NC242119 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 24 Feb (MENA) — The official talks between Egypt and Greece began at Al-Tahirah Palace this evening. The Egyptians were led by Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi and the Greeks by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, who arrived in Cairo earlier today.

At the conclusion of this first round of talks, Dr Lutfi stated that the talks with the Greek prime minister and his delegation dealt with two kinds of issues: The first included international issues of interest to the two countries. The second pertained to bilateral relations.

Dr Lutfi added: Regarding the first group of issues, we talked about peace in the Middle East. We recounted the important steps undertaken by Egypt and the results that we have achieved. Greece explained how it values peace, and promised to do its best to achieve peace in the Middle East.

Dr Lutfi said: The talks also dealt with the Iraq-Iran war. We expounded on Egypt's view that the bloodshed between the two countries must stop and that they should turn to negotiations. We also talked about the danger that the recent Iranian offensive poses for peace in the area.

He added: We also discussed international terrorism, and referred to President Husni Mubarak's proposal to the European Community.

He pointed out that the Greek prime minister confirmed that his country supports this proposal and that he promised that his government would try to work with other European states to implement it so that peace, not terrorism, could prevail in the world.

Referring to the second group of topics, Dr Lutfi said: We began with bilateral relations, but did not have enough time to discuss and settle some of the issues. We will continue to discuss them tomorrow. However, today we talked about economic relations and agreed to adopt a number of measures to increase trade. We concluded by signing a technical and economic cooperation agreement and an agreement for the extradition of criminals.

To a MENA question about his impressions of the first round of talks, Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou said that he agrees with all that Dr 'Ali Lutfi said in his statement this evening. However, he said, I would also like to express my appreciation for the warm reception that we received from our Egyptian colleagues on arrival. He added: We attach special importance to this visit as we want to have close and strong relations. I think that we can together contribute to the peace process in our area. Regarding President Husni Mubarak's initiative to the EEC, we will support it, I think it will be successful.

The Greek prime minister asserted that President Mubarak's position is correct and that Europe must not sit idle when developments could affect conditions in our area.

Mubarak, Papandreou Speak

NC242142 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Feb (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak and his spouse tonight hosted a dinner banquet in honor of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and his wife.

Prime Minister Dr 'Lutfi, the deputy prime ministers, several other ministers, and members of the Greek delegation attended the banquet.

In a speech he delivered at the start of the banquet, President Husni Mubarak welcomed the Greek prime minister and praised the deep-rooted relations between the Egyptian and Greek peoples.

President Mubarak reviewed the history of the Pharaonic and Greek cultures, stressing that their joint march had not stopped but that it is continuing and that it will remain open for the two peoples in the future.

President Mubarak touched upon several international issues of concern to the two countries. He pointed out that the new Iranian aggression "makes it necessary for us all to firmly and persistently resist this vicious circle of violence and destruction."

The president also regretted the continuation of the acts of violence and coercion in Lebanon as well as the fresh violations of its sovereignty, territorial security, and national unity.

Referring to the Middle East issue, President Mubarak pointed out that the suspension of coordination between Jordan and the PLO is a transient development which "must not undo what many parties have undertaken in the past years or bring the international community face-to-face with a strange situation that could paralyze its activity."

In this regard, he said that this obstacle must be overcome and an agreement should be reached that might form the cornerstone for Arab and international action.

President Mubarak declared that he was confident in the ability of the European states to play a role to fill the existing gaps in the positions of the various parties. He praised the decision of the parliamentary assembly of the Council of Europe to adopt the initiative that his excellency proposed in his 28 January speech.

He also expressed confidence that Greece would play a prominent part in giving definition to an active European role reflecting Europe's interest in solving the Middle East problem.

Prime Minister Papandreou made a speech in which he praised the historical relations linking the Egyptian and Greek peoples. He stressed that all Greek governments, progressive and conservative, viewed good relations with Egypt as central to their foreign policies.

Papandreou announced his country's support for the Palestinian people, "who are the basis for achieving peace in the Middle East." He expressed his country's support for President Mubarak's initiative, which calls for the formation of a liaison group or committee in the European Community to boost the peace process in the region.

Speaking about Greece's position and policy toward the Cyprus problem, Papandreou explained that his country does not see it as a Greek-Turkish problem but as an international problem that falls under the purview of the United Nations. He expressed his country's view that all foreign forces should withdraw to "Leave Cyprus to the Cypriots." He said Greece was willing to work toward laying the foundations of peace in the Aegean Sea on the basis of mutual respect for the national interests of Greece and Turkey. In conclusion, he stressed the importance of his visit to Egypt within the framework of boosting cooperation between the two countries in all areas and at all levels.

Further on Speeches

NC242223 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] President Husni Mubarak held a dinner banquet at the Al-Qubbah Republican Palace this evening in honor of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. His excellency delivered a speech in which he praised the strong cultural relations between Egypt and Greece.

President Mubarak said that the development of Egyptian-Greek cooperation came at a time of mounting challenges and increasing dangers. His excellency expressed his profound sorrow for the continuation of acts of violence and coercion in Lebanon and the escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war. He said that the recent Iranian offensive demands that we all face this violence and destruction with firmness and determination. The president added: We support the continuing efforts to achieve a comprehensive peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem, particularly the Palestinian problem, which is at the heart of the conflict in the area.

Commenting on the suspension of coordination between Jordan and the PLO, the president said that this represents a transient development that must not undo what many parties have undertaken in the past years or bring the international community face-to-face with a situation that could paralyze is activity.

He affirmed that it is impossible to disregard the Palestinian issue. He said that the obstacle raised by the suspension of coordination between Jordan and the PLO must be overcome. The president also called for an agreement that would constitute the cornerstone for Arab and international activity.

The president said in this regard: We think that the European states can play an effective role in filling the gaps that exist in the positions of the various parties. He affirmed that Greece will play a prominent part in defining an active European role based on European agreement on the basic points for a comprehensive solution and by virtue of Europe's interest in solving the problem.

Concluding, the president said: We look with hope and confidence to the cordial talks that we have begun and that we will continue in the coming 2 days. These talks will give the relations between the two countries and the two peoples a big boost.

Replying to President Mubarak's speech, Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou paid tribute to Egypt's civilization, history, and effective role in spreading Greek civilization to all the countries of the world. He said that the Greek Government has regarded and continues to regard its relations with the Arab states as basic to its foreign policy. Egypt heads the list of these states because it is the leader and guide by virtue of history and reality.

His excellency conveyed the appreciation of the Greek people for Egypt's initiatives to achieve peace in the area. The Greek prime minister said that his country has contributed as much as it can to peace in the Middle East because it is convinced that there will be no peace in the Middle East without a solution and without recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

His excellency also expressed Greece's support for Egypt's initiative to establish a European liaison group.

In conclusion, the Greek prime minister said that his meeting with President Mubarak confirmed that the two countries' views are identical. He pointed out that the two countries can cooperate in all spheres and at all levels to solve the various problems facing the area.

President Mubarak and the Greek prime minister met privately before the dinner banquet.

Mubarak, 'Abd al-Majid Receive Jordanian Official

NC241320 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] President Mubarak received Marwan al-Qasim, chairman of the Jordanian Royal Court, this morning. The meeting was also attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs.

Following this session, Marwan al-Qasim said that his visit is part of the continuing consultations between President Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn. He added that he had briefed the president on the latest Arab events and on the Jordanian view regarding developments in the next stage.

The Jordanian official affirmed that it is now necessary for brother Palestinians everywhere to review their assessment of the priorities governing actions undertaken to save the land and people.

PLO-Jordanian relations are normal, Al-Qasim stated. King Husayn's recent address to the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza and to other Palestinians was meant to allow Palestinians to reassess their priorities. There is no conflict between the PLO and Jordan, Al-Qasim affirmed. The dispute is between the PLO political leadership and Jordan. Relations between the PLO and Jordan are as close as those between any other Arab country and this organization.

Mubarak Receives Husayn Note

JN241659 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo — His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received a message today from His Majesty King Husayn when he received Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian Royal Hashemite Court chief, in the presence of 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs.

This message falls within the framework of continued bilateral consultations and coordination to prepare for high-level talks between officials of both countries in the near future. Al-Qasim returned to Amman this afternoon.

PNC Members Declare Support for PLO Leadership

NC242045 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Feb (MENA) — Members of the PNC and popular Palestinian secretariats and organizations in Egypt held a meeting today to discuss political developments following King Husayn's speech announcing that political coordination with the PLO would cease. The PNC members have stressed that they support and are rallying around the Palestinian leadership, which adhers to national council resolutions, primarily that on the Palestinian People's right to self-determination.

The conferees condemned American backing for Israeli conditions. They praised the position of the masses in the occupied land, which seeks the unity of the Palestinian people around the PLO under the leadership of brother Yasir 'Arafat. The conferees lauded the position of the Arab Republic of Egypt, its president, government, and people for their support of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and of their right to determine their future.

Cairo Radio Commentary

NC241627 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1240 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Bahiyy al-din Shu'ayb commentary: "There Must be Another Solution"]

[Ext] Since the Arabs, and particularly the PLO, have accepted the peace process as a way of regaining their usurped rights, they should show all manner of patience, for the road to peace is long and winding. Furthermore, the views of those following this course are as different as night and day. For this reason, if the Arabs were taken aback at Jordan's decision to stop its coordination with the PLO in search of peace, they should accept it calmly. The suspension of this coordination is not the end of the world; it is simply a pause along this road.

If the Arabs saw the announcement of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement a good omen, it is also true that the suspension of coordiantion between these two parties has given all the partici-

pants, as well as those who reject such coordination, a broader field of vision to evaluate the situation without any misinterpretation.

In this context, we can say it is clearly unjust to hold any one side responsible for the brakdown that has occurred. At such a critical time, we cannot afford to be swept away toward conflict, for that would lead only to disintegration. If we should hear agitated statements in the next few days slandering one party or the other, it will be our duty to keep these differences within their objective limits to prevent the addition of more fuel to the fire of the Arab crisis.

We may remember that the Palestinian issue has faced greater trials in the past. The way before it was dark and strewn with obstacles. Yasir 'Arafat described the Palestinians' current situation as similar to moving inside a dark tunnel. However, we add to the Palestinian leader's words that no matter how dark this tunnel may become, it will inevitably lead to the bright light of justice.

Someone might ask — and he would have every right to do so — yes, but what next? Who is capable of raising the flag of the Palestinian issue alongside the Palestinian people?

With all modesty and conscientiousness, and with the destiny we believe in, we say: Egypt is the Palestinian issue's only chance. Egypt alone supported the Palestinian issue when everyone else was distracted by conflicts, war, or worse. Egypt took up the Palestinian cause at a time when the PLO itself was openly hostile to Egypt. In truth, Egyptian diplomacy never gave up, despite the mist and the minefield surrounding the Palestinian issue. It remained active at the international level, renewing the support of friends and working to neutralize enemies. It opened itself to dialogue with PLO leaders and with every Arab capable of participating within his means, refusing endless temptations to turn away from the affairs of Palestine and to look after its own problems. The world's continued concern with the Palestinian people's rights is undoubtedly the result of Egypt's actions over the last 4 years. Egypt should be proud of having successfully amassed a significant amount of international support for, and belief in the Palestinian people's right to self-determination; the PLO's status as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative; and the necessity of PLO participation for any successful Middle East solution.

We reiterate that the peace talks require a good deal of patience and an outstanding flair for maneuvers. They need the courage of all men and, above all else, a firm belief in the goal that we should never lose sight of. If the patience of men runs out at any point in time, this does not mean that they have lost sight of the goal or have given up on the Palestinian issue.

Mubarak Meets With Sudanese Integration Official

NC241017 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Ambassador Salah Bukhari, the official in charge of integration in Sudan, this morning. The meeting was attended by Major General 'Abd al-Sattar Amin, the assistant secretary general for integration.

Following this session, Salah Bukhari, who arrived in Cairo yesterday, reported that he had given a written message from General 'Abd al-Rahmad Siwar al-Dhahab to President Mubarak. The message deals with cooperation and coordination between Cairo and Khartoum.

The Sudanese integration official also said that he had submitted a report to the president on the activities of the General Secretariat for Integration in Khartoum. Bukhari noted that President Mubarak is a cochairman of the Higher Council on Integration.

The Sudanese official stated that a date for convening the joint committee on integration had not yet been fixed. A ministerial committee, he added, will meet in Khartoum today to discuss the findings of a bilateral technical committee, which has been examining integration from the perspective of cooperation in the fields of production and services.

Ghali Leaves for OAU Conference in Addis Ababa

NC250707 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo for Addis Ababa early this morning. Dr Ghali will lead Egypt's delegation to the OAU ministerial council meetings, which will begin today at the organization's headquarters in Addis Ababa.

In a predeparture statement, Dr Ghali said that Egypt's participation in the 46th OAU foreign ministers' conference is of particular importance because this conference is to discuss the economic crisis in Africa. Preparations also will be made for the international conference to be held in New York toward the end of May, at which the deteriorating economic situation in Africa and the problem of debts will be examined. Dr Ghali went on to say that a number of other economic and social problems will be reviewed at the conference.

Prime Minister Lutfi Addresses People's Assembly

NC241446 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi made a statement today to the People's Assembly on the deliberations there, which are now over. The People's Assembly has been in session since 19 January to discuss the government program.

Dr Lutfi said that the dialogue was constructive, objective, and democratic, and gave rise to a number of views that the government will consider. He explained that our current economic situation is delicate, particularly after the collapse of oil prices. He noted that the government has finished its draft of the unified tax law, and pointed out that the government will pay special attention to exports. As for agricultural produce, the government will reorder its priorities to increase our output of wheat.

At this point, Dr Lutfi highlighted the government's interest in promoting tourism as a primary source of foreign exchange. He also stressed the importance of improving distribution centers for basic foods. He stated that the government has responded to a request by members of the People's Assembly to draft a new law on the relationship between landlords and tenants. The government, he said, has permitted competition among distributors of imported cement.

On health policy, Dr Lutfi noted that those areas that lack medical services are being defined as a prelude to providing them with everything they need.

Dr Lutfi then discussed foreign policy. He referred to President Husni Mubarak's speech before the European Council's Parliamentary Assembly in Strasbourg, which contained two important initiatives. The first seeks to activate Europe's role, while the second calls for a UN-sponsored international conference to deal with terrorism.

In addition, Dr Lutfi touched on the Tabah talks, which were held between Egyptian and Israeli delegations on the basis of arbitral compromise. He also pointed to the splendid efforts of Egyptian diplomacy in foreign affairs. He concluded with a declaration that the government will show no leniency toward corruption or wrongdoing.

The government statement was later put to a vote, and was approved by a majority of members. It was rejected by the opposition. The People's Assembly adjourned until the morning of 8 March.

NWP Leader Siraj al-Din Explains Party Policies

PM241701 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 19 Feb 86 p 3

[Interview with Egyptian New Wafd Party [NWP] Leader Fu'ad Siraj al-Din by Ibrahim Yunis; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Yunis] Do you believe that the NWP's exercise of democracy is sound?

[Siraj al-Din] Only God is perfect, but we try.

[Yunis] You have been criticized for the numerous withdrawals from the People's Assembly. I do not believe that such an attitude is in harmony with sound democratic practice.

[Siraj al-Din] I have told my brothers that it is wrong to walk out of sessions because that means leaving others to do what they like at a time when you should be struggling to the last minute in support of your views. You should not leave the hall and should continue to express your views regardless of whether the Assembly is with or against you.

[Yunis] Before we discuss issues of corruption let me just mention something else, the sharp tone of press articles that, some people believe, have reached the point of defamation and provocation.

[Siraj al-Din] First of all, we do not defame anyone. There are many people in government whom we highly respect and appreciate and we have not said a single bad word about them. We respect President Husni Mubarak and we have faith in his integrity, national honor, and interest in knowing opposing opinions. This has been the case every time we met with him, and he never showed any displeasure at hearing other views.

(He then mentioned names of ministers and government officials whom the NWP respects and appreciates)

He added: However, when an official errs, it becomes our duty to oppose him. Is that not our duty as members of the opposition? Why should criticism be a cause for government anger? It is the right of every individual, let alone legitimate political parties and their elected parliamentary representatives. Are we supposed to applaud corruption?

[Yunis] Do you see nothing to applaud in what the government is doing?

[Siraj al-Din] On the contrary, I see a lot, and we say so from our own rostrums. We have supported President Mubarak's foreign and Arab policies and we have supported his position on the incident of the Egyptian airliner's hijacking by U.S. aircraft. We do not defame, we simply address political issues and expose mistakes. That is our duty. We do not provoke, we just expose mistakes. That is our duty.

[Yunis] What about the attacks on Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir, his achievements, and his revolution, which is also the people's revolution?

[Siraj al-Din] We do not criticize unfairly. We supported the revolution in every possible way until it deviated from its own six known principles. People who backed and even made the revolution also criticized it, such as President Najib, President Anwar al-Sadat, and other members of the Revolution Command Council.

We do not attack the revolution as a revolution. We attack those who accumulated wealth under the cover of revolution, who committed crimes against the people in the name of the revolution, and those who used the revolution as a cover for their mistakes. Is this not the role of the political parties?

Despite all that, our faith in democracy prompts us to call for a Nasirite public party to represent the Nasirites, speak for them, and defend them. We also say that the other forces, which are not represented by any parties, should also have their own legitimate parties. We say so because we believe in democracy.

[Yunis] Why do you advocate the permanent abolition of government subsidies? Are many sectors of the community not in need of such economic support?

[Siraj al-Din] That claim is also not true. We merely request that the subsidies be given to those who deserve them — the toiling masses — not the able and the wealthy.

[Yunis] What are the points of agreement and disagreement between you and the NDP and between you and the rest of the opposition?

[Siraj al-Din] We agree with the NDP and its government on Arab policy, foreign policy, and the attitude toward the Palestinian question but we disagree with their supply and education policies and we disagree with the falsification of history textbooks and domestic policies. We agree with the economic open-door policy. We agree with the opposition on foreign policy — we are all for neutrality —the Arab policy, and the attitude toward the Palestinian question, and we agree with it on the need for internal reform. We disagree with the views of some members of the opposition on the economic open-door policy.

[Yunis] Do you not believe that the atmosphere in Egypt is democratic, enabling freedom of speech and giving the opposition freedom of opinion and freedom of movement that it did not enjoy before?

[Siraj al-Din] Yes, we do have a climate of democracy but we must complete the democratic processes by:

1. Amending the Constitution to consolidate the people's power, and the method of electing the president — by ballot instead of referendum. We explained this in our program. The present Constitution was drafted under the one-party system. It is pervaded by totalitarianism in words and spirit. One of its shortcomings is that it does not separate powers. It also does not entitle the nation's representatives to effectively control the budget or to amend any of its articles. It makes their proposals mere recommendations that may or may not be accepted. Parliaments in democratic countries were originally created to debate the budget.

2. Abolishing the emergency laws and state of emergency, which are unnecessary, and amending the election laws for parliamentary and local councils.

3. We do have freedom of speech but what is lacking is the freedom to publish newspapers and form parties.

[Yunis] What is your real position on the Camp David agreements and peace?

[Siraj al-Din] We are not against peace. No self-respecting party could possibly be opposed to peace but the question is how peace should be established. We have reservations regarding the Camp David agreements. We announced these reservations during the previous assembly before the NWP was formed. At the time we conveyed them to the then NDP Secretary Fikri Makram who told us that our reservations would be taken into consideration, but they were disregarded.

While some parties call for the abrogation of the Camp David agreements we believe that these agreements are now useless and of no value. They were in actual fact annulled by Israel itself when it invaded Lebanon because by doing so it broke its commitment to these agreements. With regard to the part on the Palestinian question, President Husni Mubarak is declaring daily that the settlement of the Palestinian question is in the hands of the Palestinian people. That is why the agreements are useless and of no value.

Security Council Call for Cease-Fire Reported

JN250628 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0600 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Last night the UN Security Council called for an immediate cease-fire and for an end to all ground, sea, and air clashes between Iraq and Iran. It also called for the immediate withdrawal of all forces to the two countries' international borders.

Saddam Husayn Cables Kuwaiti Amir on National Day

JN250908 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0837 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has stressed the strong fraternal and pan-Arab ties between Iraq and Kuwait. He expressed his concern about promoting these ties. The cable of congratulations President Saddam Husayn sent to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah on the 25th anniversary of Kuwait's national day reads: Your Highness Kuwaiti Amir Brother Shaykh Jabir al-Sabah, I am pleased to take the occasion of the 25th anniversary of fraternal Kuwait's National Day to send to your highness and to the fraternal Kuwaiti people our heartfelt wishes of continued good health and happiness, and also to the Kuwaiti people continued progress and prosperity. We take this occasion to stress th strong fraternal and pan-Arab ties between Iraq and Kuwait. We are concerned about continuing and promoting these ties in the interest of the two countries and the fruitful Arab solidarity and cooperation. We ask Almighty God to grant us success in the interest of our glorious Arab nation's interest, strength, and dignity, and to safeguard our nation's sovereignty and dignity from the ambitions of the aggressors.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Junction Liberation Reported

JN241620 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Basra, 24 Feb (INA) — The commander of the southern column has stated that units of the left flank of the southern column, in a resolute offensive, succeeded in liberating ('Al-Mamalih) junction ['uqdat], also known as the third barrier. In a statement to the INA team in the area of operations, the commander said that in view of the strategic and topographical importance of this area, its recapture by Iraqi forces will have serious consequences for the withdrawal of Iranian forces in terms of destruction and expulsion from Iraqi territory. The commander added that the forces of the left flank reached their set targets in a quick and lightning operation which lasted no more than 1 hour, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy in life and equipment. The commander of the southern column said that following this defeat, the Iranian forces desperately tried to carry out several offensives to harass Iraqi units in their new positions. However, they failed in penetrating the strong Iraqi defense lines and sustained further losses. The commander said that the right flank of the southern column, after waging fierce battles with the Iranian forces, also succeeded in liberating several kilometers of Iraqi land, and that the Iranian forces were forced to withdraw several kilometers, leaving their dead and their destroyed military hardware littering the battlefield.

Central Column Advances Further

JN241320 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1252 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Basra, 24 Feb (INA) — The INA mission at the VII Army Corps front has reported that the central Iraqi column has advanced further toward liberating more Iraqi territory under the Iranian forces.

The mission added that the soldiers of this column, which is one of three Iraqi columns charged with destroying and crushing the Iranian forces which crossed the Shatt al-'Arab, have destroyed in their advance more Iranian positions and weapons and inflicted heavy losses on enemy personnel. The mission said that pressure from Iraqi firepower compelled the Iranians to retreat in a disorderly manner. The mission said that today the northern and southern columns continued to strike at Iranian positions in a coordinated plan with other forces, including fighter planes, helicopter gunships, rockets and artillery. The mission said that the Iranians tried to attack the forward Iraqi forces last night. However, the Iraqi forces struck back. The mutilated bodies of Iranian soldiers littered the way and the remainder of the attacking Iranian force was forced to retreat.

Further on Advance

JN250949 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0845 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Radio dispatch from VII Army Corps sector in southern Iraq]

[Excerpt] Since this morning the radio team has been present at the central axis of the VII Army Corps sector. It continues to move with the columns that are marching toward the full liberation of Iraq's national soil. From this place we can tell you that the decisive hour is approaching.

The radio team can very confidently affirm this to you today after the forces of leader struggler Saddam Husayn in the VII Army Corps sector continued their advance to crush the rogues of Iran, destroy their remnants, and purge the pure soil.

During yesterday's battles our forces tightened their siege of the invading forces, sealing them off. The enemy forces are now at the mercy of the Iraqi hammer thanks to the intensive and violent fire of the artillery men who turned the land into hell for the Khomeyniite forces whose defenses began to collapse one by one and whose fortifications were turned into ashes.

The central column continued its advance toward the invading forces' positions in order to liberate several more kilometers of Iraq's pure soil in an extraordinary military effort and with rare determination to purge Iraq's territory. In epic-like fighting we managed to wipe out fresh thousands of Iranian knaves who were disloged from their positions and turned into dead bodies littering every part of the battlefield.

The Khomeyniite clique's forces retreated in complete frustration and panic, leaving behind thousands of mutilated bodies.

Al-Faw To Be 'Settled Soon'

JN241631 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1602 GMT 24 Feb 86

[INA team dispatch from advanced position at the front]

[Excerpt] The central column commander said that the battle the Iraqi Armed Forces are waging in Al-Faw to wipe out the enemy and liberate the land will be settled soon. He added that the desperate operations the Iranian enemy are carrying out against liberated Iraqi areas are futile operations and that the Iraqi forces will show the enemy how they will wipe them out.

Communique No 2,127 Issued

JN241831 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,127 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces are standing loftily in the battlefield to safeguard Iraq's territoty, dignity, and the pride of its sons. They are carrying out their duty with heroic enthusiasm and are attaining their set targets with unique courage. Our victorious forces are determined to repulse the aggressors and inflict losses on them from which they cannot recuperate, purge the last inch of the land, and make of this battle the end of the Iranian charlatan regime and the way through which we will impose peace on the warmongers and advocates of destruction.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: Our valiant Armed Forces' splendid victories on this front are taking place every day. Our valiant forces of the central and southern columns continued to attain their set targets in record time, showing meticulous coordination and heroic competition in liberating our beloved land, during which the heroism of the commanders, officers, and other ranks was clearly manifested. The central column carried out a series of resolute offensives, penetrating enemy positions to a distance of 2.5 km and wiping out enemy forces in these positions.

As for the southern column, it entrenched its defense lines, foiled several enemy attempts to approach its positions, and controlled several important areas. This achievement enables our forces to speed up the final destruction of the unjust enemy. The enemy attempted to recapture some of the positions it lost, but our forces confronted it with intensive fire, inflicting further losses on it and forcing its remnants to retreat. The situation was settled in favor of our forces. This new victory has been achieved thanks to the determination of our men in the advancing columns and effective support by our Air Force, Army Air Force, and artillery and missile units.

As for the northern column, our forces continued to inflict heavy losses on the enemy, forcing its units to remain in place under volleys of fire.

2. Squadrons from our brave Air Force continued to fly over the heads of the Khomeyniites in the battlefield and deep inside Iranian territory, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy in life and equipment, pouncing on their troop concentrations and bridges, severing their communications lines, and providing the best support for our ground forces. Our eagles carried out 160 combat missions, after which the brave eagles of the air safely returned to the homeland with the exception of one plane which crashed over enemy territory. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the safety of our pilot. May God bless the brave eagles for all their offerings in defense of their people and homeland.

3. The helicopter gunship knights continue to impose their supremacy in the battle skies, pounding enemy troop concentrations, positions, and military hardware with their missiles. They inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in life and equipment in 200 combat sorties, after which the brave helicopter gunship knights safely returned to base, praise be to God. Blessed be your hands, O helicopter gunship knights. Proceed forward to wipe out their remnants. This day is near.

4. Our brave Navy continues to guard the Arab Gulf waters, preventing the Khomeyniites from using these waters for their evil, hostile purposes. The brave men of the Navy launched a surprises attack on two very large maritime targets near Khark Island at 2205 yesterday, destroying them. Glory to you, brave men of the Navy, for what you have accomplished and what you are accomplishing. May God grant you success in scoring further victories over the clique of despotism and aggression.

5. Our brave formations inflicted on the enemy the following losses:

a. eight enemy soldiers killed, two vehicles and one ammunition dump destroyed, and one boat captured in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah;

b. two enemy soldiers killed in the I Army Corps northern sector, one firing point destroyed, and one enemy soldier killed in the II Army Corps central sector.

c. the cowardly criminals shelled (Biyarah) with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 February 1986

Pilot Cited on Iran's 'Inhuman Methods'

JN242144 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2050 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 24 Feb (INA) — INA has learned that the pilot of the Iranian F-4 plane shot down by Iraqi ground resistance over the VII Army Corps sector is currently being treated in an Iraqi hospital for serious wounds sustained as a result of the failure of the ejection system in his plane. INA says that (Mansur Mohammad Azadi), the pilot of the Iranian plane, has given important information about the inhuman methods Iran uses to conceal its deteriorating military situation, particularly in the paralyzed Iranian Air Force. INA cites (Azadi) as saying that technicians at Iranian military airports have sabotaged ejection systems in planes the Iranian regime still possesses in order to prevent pilots from bailing out when facing Iraqi fire and to assure their death if their planes are hit so they cannot give any information on the deteriorating military situation and the state of despair the Iranian people are experiencing as a result of the Iranian regime's insistence on prolonging the war.

King Husayn Cables Kuwaiti Amir on National Day

JN241741 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 24 Feb 86

["Text" of congratulatory cable sent by King Husayn to Kuwaiti amir on 24 February on the occasion of Kuwait's national day]

[Text] Your Highness Brother Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, may God protect him. I am pleased to take the occasion of fraternal Kuwait's national day to send to your highness in my name and on behalf of the Jordanian Government and people my heartfelt brotherly wishes on this glorious 25th anniversary of the march of prosperity and construction in your fraternal country.

While we share the joys of your country and people on this blessed occasion, we would like to stress to your highness our firm stand by your side in your righteous confrontation of the wicked plans aimed at the Arab nation's eastern flank. Kuwait's principled, clear condemnation of those who have ambitions toward the land, the waters, and Arab rights will remain a living embodiment of the unity of Arab destiny and cooperation in the face of the joint danger which is now threatening the Arab East and whose aims are similar to those of the Israeli enemy, which we are confronting on our front with all our might. May God protect your fraternal country and grant it further power and prosperity under your wise leadership. I send you my best wishes for good health.

[Signed] Your Brother King Husayn

Al-Rifa'i Receives Syrian Transport Minister

JN191331 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received Syrian Transportation Minister Yusuf al-Ahmad in his office this morning. They reviewed the various spheres of cooperation between the two fraternal countries in the field of land, maritime, and air transport. They also discussed giving a boost to the Jordanian-Syrian Maritime Transport Company and the Jordanian- Syrian Land Transport Company.

The meeting was attended by Transport Minister Farhi 'Ubayd and the Syrian charge d'affaires in Amman.

Cooperation Minutes Signed

JN201948 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Amman — The minutes of the talks on cooperation in the field of transportation between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic were signed at the Transportation Ministry today. The minutes, which were signed by transportation Minister Farhi 'Ubayd and Syrian Transportation Minister Engineer Yusuf al-Ahmad in the presence of the two delegations' members, stipulate that the 3 million-dinar capital of the Syrian-Jordanian Land Transportation Company shall be equally shared between the two countries with the aim of renewing the company's fleet, updating its work, and renewing the exemption of the customs tariffs of the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transportation Company and the Syrian-Jordanian Maritime Navigation for another 10 years.

The minutes stipulate contacting Saudi Arabia with the aim of following up the work to update the services of the Jordanian-Syrian-Saudi Hijazi railroad line linking the three countries. The minutes also stipulate following up the work to open a broad highway between the two countries [Jordan and Syria] in service of Arab integration and to attempt, through talks with Saudi Arabia, to extend this highway to its territory.

Eng Yusuf al-Ahmad and his delegation left Amman for Damascus today. They were seen of at the Al-Ramtha border post by Transportation Minister Farhi 'Ubayd and a number of Transportation Ministry officials.

SAWT AL-SHA'B on Halt of Contacts With PLO

JN250849 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
25 Feb 86 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "The Only Winner"]

[Text] The suspension of political contacts, dialogue, and consultations with the PLO leadership and our leader's detailed explanation of matters to the sons of the Jordanian family was interpreted in various ways by some opportunist sides. However, Jordan's concept and objectives are clear. They are based on a pan-Arab stand which is committed to the cause and has respect for the word and stand. Jordan's concept stresses commitment to continue efforts to save the land and people so that the people will not be turned into a minority, and here lies the tragedy, and so that the land will not be turned into a reservoir of sad memories, and here lies the catastrophe, and also so that one-upmanship will not continue and the cause will not be lost.

In light of these developments and in accordance with the Jordanian concept, confirming that Jordan, leadership, government, and people, have a firm policy toward the Palestine question is a basil matter. Jordan will not be an alternative to the Palestinians, will not undermine their independent decisionmaking and legitimacy, and will not foil the Rabat summit resolution and all the Arab summits resolutions. Jordan's recent stand and decision was not to take the West Bank for itself, because the Palestinians are free to make their own decisions and choices. This freedom gives them the right, every right, to hold a dialogue with their leadership and to redress its political line and approaches in order to make it aware of the seriousness of the stage and the gravity of losing opportunities for achieving the legitimate Palestinian rights. At that time, Jordan's doors will be open for dialogue and consultation.

In less than a year, King Husayn has succeeded in penetrating the U.S. wall and wrenching considerable progress in the U.S. stand toward recognizing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and accepting the PLO's participation in an international conference and to hold a dialogue with the Palestinians, the owners of the right, land, and history. This stand would, of course, create a state of confrontation inside the Zionist entity between Tel Aviv and Washington and would eventually lead to

a strengthening of the Arab stand toward peace. Consequently, profit would be determined and a gain achieved.

THE WASHINGTON POST, which is very close to the U.S. Administration, has fully understood King Husayn's concept and stands and considers the stands of the PLO's leadership and its weak concerns as a premeditated abortion of peace efforts, and believe that the PLO leadership has lost a golden opportunity which might take one or two generations to be repeated.

Those who know King Husayn know his insistence on and firm stands on right and his commitment to his nation's cause. Eventually everyone will realize that his was the right course and that he had the ability to discern matters and developments, and that he will continue to lead the march to offer sacrifices for Palestine, Jordan, and the entire Arab nation.

Further on Al-Jumayyil Meeting With Suslikov
NC241558 Beirut Domestic Service in English
1508 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil met at the B'abda Palace today with the Soviet charge d'affaires in Lebanon Yuriy Suslikov. Discussions centered on developments on the Lebanese scene and on the situation in the country.

Following the hour long meeting, Suslikov told newsmen that both he and the president have agreed on meeting to exchange views. He said that he had delivered answers to the president on questions which had been raised during a previous meeting earlier this month. The questions and answers involved conditions in south Lebanon and some aspects to [as heard] security in the country.

The Soviet envoy stressed that his government was determined to help Lebanon and the Lebanese in their struggle against the Israeli occupation. He expressed hope that problems in the south will be resolved quickly and he condemned latest Israeli measures in the south. He declared that the Soviet Union was willing to help Lebanon at the United Nations and within the Security Council and to back all steps taken by Lebanon on the international level.

Prime Minister Karami Interviewed by AL-LIWA'
NC231023 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 23 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has emphasized that the developments facing us are a sign that the crisis and internecine fighting have become so serious that any talk of optimism is pointless. This came in an interview that will be published in tomorrow's edition of the newspaper *AL-LIWA'*.

Karami noted that calls for the president's resignation have created another problem for us, on top of the question of the tripartite agreement. He added: Despite every attempt, political solutions have not had the desired results. It is now up to the future, and God only knows what the coming days have in store for us.

Karami stressed the government's rejection of any security arrangements in the south, pointing out that its goal is the full implementation of Resolution 425. Karami declared: Lebanon is committed to the truce agreement and all its terms, despite Israel's rejection. He said that the Lebanese crisis will be solved in Lebanon, and that those outside can only support what the Lebanese people agree upon. As for the situation in West Beirut, Karami referred to some violations committed by the various forces there.

Karami Chairs West Beirut Coordination Meeting
NC241500 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami chaired a meeting of the West Beirut Coordination Committee this afternoon. The session was held at Government House and was attended by 'Adil 'Usayran, Deputy Munir Abu Fadil, former Minister Marwan Hamadah, Chief of Staff Major General Mahmud Tayy Abu Dargham, Major General 'Uthman Uthman, director general of Internal Security Forces, and other security and political officials. The object of the meeting was to review the security situation in West Beirut and to deal with the recent incidents there.

Prime Minister Karami commented on conditions in West Beirut by saying: The situation is most disturbing. A large number of legal questions are being raised about ways of stopping the kidnappings and murders. Nothing can justify what is happening as long as we are the sons of the same rank following the same course. Beirut must be an example of stability in terms of both politics and security.

Further on Meeting
NC241619 Beirut Domestic Service in English
1508 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Karami warned today that Lebanon was the target of a regional and international conspiracy, and he called on all Lebanese to be on the alert and to thwart attempts to create trouble. He referred to the exaggerations of the media and he accused some Lebanese factions of adding oil to the fire.

The prime minister made these remarks during a meeting of the West Beirut Coordination Committee at which he announced that the newly created special force would back up the strike force set up previously to maintain law and order in West Beirut.

Following the meeting, which extended into the mid-afternoon, the prime minister said that a number of irritating incidents had occurred in West Beirut and were being exploited by factions seeking to create strife. He said that these groups, which were Lebanese, were linked to non-Lebanese groups involved in trying to create trouble. He said that the security forces would be taking full action to crack down on lawlessness and would be backed by the strike force and the newly-created special forces. Karami deplored recent events and struggles and said that he welcomed any coordination of efforts on the security or political level. He said that the Lebanese were called upon to work together to thwart all plots and conspiracies.

The prime minister's helicopter was forced to land in Shikka during a storm this morning and he only arrived in Beirut in the early afternoon.

Karami on Al-Jumayyil-Syrian Envoy Meeting
NC241644 Beirut Domestic Service in English
1508 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Karami has expressed alarm over the situation in West Beirut and he declared that it should be a model of security and political stability. The prime minister voiced his views on the situation last night after chairing a meeting of the North Lebanon Coordination Committee held in Tripoli. Politi-

cal conditions were discussed along with the security situation in the north.

In the coodination committee, the prime minister stressed the importance of the Syrian role and declared that the Syrian initiative was vital. He expressed optimism that the recent meeting in Morocco between President al-Jumayyil and the Syrian ambassador would help to ease the existing deadlock and open the way to solutions which could rescue the country.

The committee discussed ways of improving security in Tripoli, combatting rising prices, and preventing suspicious elements from disrupting public life.

Birri on Soviet, Arab Reaction to Events in South

NC241508 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Attorney Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction and minister of justice and hydroelectric resources, received Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov at 1300 this afternoon. They reviewed the general situation in Lebanon as well as the political and security aftermath of the Israeli incursion in the south.

After the meeting, the Soviet charge was asked about his country's stance, which he conveyed to President al-Jumayyil and then to Minister Birri today. He answered: Minister Birri is now aware what our stand on the south is.

Minister Birri said: The charge gave me a message from the Soviet leadership dealing with the recent aggression against south Lebanon. It expresses the solidarity of the Soviet leadership and people with Lebanon's just cause. The message reaffirms that Israel must abide by the Security Council's resolutions demanding the total and unconditional withdrawal of the aggressor's forces from all the Lebanese territory.

Birri added: This was an opportunity to exchange views on current conditions with the Soviet charge d'affaires. We thank the Soviet Union's interest at a time when most of the world, including the Arab states, has paid no attention to our situation. I would like to go on record at this time to point out that, except for the Syrian, Algerian, Polisario, PDRY, and Palestinian brothers, we are surprised and shocked that there has been no Arab reaction, even if only to denounce the theft, looting, and arson that Israel carried out against the people of the south.

Body of Kidnapped Jew Reportedly Found

NC241451 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1447 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Security sources have confirmed that a body was found in the Al-Musaytibah area this morning and that it belongs to one of the Jews who were kidnapped in West Beirut.

Hizballah-Communists Clash, Iranians Mediate

Kidnaped CP Leader Executed

NC241555 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] At dawn today, the Hizballah organization carried out the death sentence against Suhayl Tawilah, member of the Communist Party Central Committee. Tawilah was tried at Hizballah headquarters in Bi'r al-'Abd following the refusal of the communists to hand over the assassins of 'Ali Shahadah. Tawilah's body was dumped near the Normandy area.

Embassy Denounces Clash

NC241836 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arbaic
1715 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] The Iranian Embassy in Beirut has denounced the clash that took place between Hizballah and the communists yesterday; the embassy said it had nothing to do with it.

In a statement, the embassy said: We expect undisciplined elements are behind this incident, which aims, one way or another, to preoccupy the Islamic forces and the Islamic Republic with minor problems. The statement affirmed that embassy officials refuse to be drawn into any internal problems, and warned that the embassy will expose all parties and forces that stand behind these fabricated incidents.

Hizballah Arrests CP Members

NC241939 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1915 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] While the various armed organizations are on a state of alert in several areas of West Beirut, reports indicate that the Hizballah organization carried out a series of arrests last night during and after its clashes with the communists. Approximately 40 Communist Party members were arrested.

Embassy Says Detainees Released

NC250656 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] A meeting was held at the Iranian Embassy in Beirut at 1900 yesterday. It was sponsored by embassy officials and attended by representatives of the Progressive Socialist Party, Amal Movement, Communist Party, and Hizballah. The conferees discussed ways of dealing with the regreattable events that occurred on certain streets in the capital. They expressed their sorrow at the harm done to innocent victims. They agreed to prevent any further repercussions and to release all detenees, regardless of affiliation, at 2100 last night.

An Iranian Embassy source has confirmed that all the detainees have been released. It was agreed to hold regular meetings to coordinate efforts and exchange viewpoints. The conferees called for all internal conflicts to be shunned and for all guns and

resources to be directed against the usurping enemy and its agents until liberation is attained.

Assassin of Nasirite Official Identified
NC242031 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] 'Isam al-'Arab, secretary general of the Nasirite organization in Lebanon-Nasir forces, was assassinated in his house in Hurj Bayrut today.

Security reports say that the killer is 'Abd al-Wahid, known as 'Abd al-Khalili. He is a Syrian who worked as Al-'Arab's driver 2 years ago.

Camp Palestinians Receiving Arms
NC241846 (Clandestine)Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Security reports indicate that 'Arafat followers in the camps of Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah recently have received quantities of arms and ammunition, including artillery, SAM missiles, and heavy-caliber machineguns. These are to be used to handle military developments in West Beirut. The Palestinians have also reorganized their cadres in the three camps.

According to these reports, movements by 'Arafat followers have been observed in West Beirut, particularly in the Ra's Beirut area. These groups are based in cells that they have established in the area, particularly in the vicinity of the Sumerland Hotel, the Abu Talib slope, and Al-Maqdisi Street.

'Carlos' Believed Executed, Buried in Libya

TA211545 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 21 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] Israeli experts believe that "Carlos," the international archterrorist, is no longer alive, following his execution by his Libyan collaborators. One of the heads of the intelligence community who recently retired said: "I assume he is buried somewhere under the sands of the Libyan desert. When there was no longer a need for him, it was decided that he be executed because he knew too much about the involvement of leaders of Arab countries and their security services in international terrorism."

This assessment was formed on the basis of the disappearance for several years of Carlos, a native of Venezuela, who was one of the campaign officers of the PFLP and whose most notorious act was in 1975 in Vienna, when he kidnapped several OPEC oil ministers, apparently prompted by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

Reportage, Commentary on Kidnapped Soldiers

Removal of Soldiers Detailed

TA250924 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 Feb 86 p 3

[Excerpt] The two IDF soldiers kidnapped in the security zone by members of the Hizballah organization last week were smuggled out of the southern region a short time after their kidnapping. This is claimed by Da'ud Da'ud, one of the leaders of the Amal movement in southern Lebanon. His remarks appear in the Beirut weekly *AL-USBU' AL-'ARABI* which appeared yesterday.

Da'ud Da'ud spoke with the weekly's correspondent early last week, a short time after the two IDF soldiers were kidnapped. Lebanese sources have reported that the two soldiers were taken out of the southern region in an ambulance which had apparently been prepared beforehand by members of Hizballah.

Extremists from the Amal movement helped the Hizballah members carry out the kidnapping. It now emerges that following the combing operations the IDF carried out in southern Lebanon, Amal movement leaders were surprised to discover the powerful influence that the Hizballah organization had on the Shi'ite villages in southern Lebanon. Yesterday several inhabitants of villages in southern Lebanon demonstrated against the presence in their villages of terrorists from the Hizballah and Amal organizations.

Papers Comment on IDF Withdrawal

TA231114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 23 Feb 86

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *THE JERUSALEM POST* says that the 6-day search operation was militarily and politically reasonable. It was long enough to enable a thorough search and to uncover hidden weaponry designed for use against the south Lebanese army or Israel, and it was short enough to avoid igniting popular resistance in the area's villages. Herein lies a message that, it is hoped, will not be lost on the Shi'ites of southern Lebanon. Israel has no interest in such incursions and interference with their lives. But if provoked, it will do what is necessary to safeguard its security interests.

HA'ARETZ writes that when the decision was first made to launch the searches north of the security strip, it was a logical decision because the whereabouts of our two soldiers were unclear; nor was it clear who was holding them. The possibility that the searches would disrupt the local population's lives was taken into consideration, although most of them accepted the searches and did not violently oppose them. Clearly, the IDF is once again being portrayed there as an army of conquest. There are growing signs that the Shi'ite organization Amal is getting far closer to the extremist organization Hizballah than Israel would like. Under these circumstances it made good sense to end the search operation. Any operation which fails to achieve its goals within a reasonable period of time should not be continued. We should not suffer from a guilty conscience over the withdrawal of the IDF units to their home base before a successful completion of their mission. The IDF has proved that it spares no efforts to effect the release of the kidnapped. Now we must seek other ways to obtain their release and settle our account with the organization that takes credit for capturing them.

DAVAR says that many times in the past we have in effect exacerbated incentives to carry out anti-Israeli struggles. It seems that the latest operation north of the security zone had the same effect. One hopes that the correct conclusion that was drawn did not come too late. Nor is it conceivable that the IDF will maintain a substantial amount of units within the security strip once tension has lessened. Action should be taken to bring about this calm and to complete the withdrawal from the security strip itself soon. No one doubts that the efforts to locate the two kidnapped soldiers will continue and that everything will be done to bring them home. The political and military echelons have always exhausted all the possibilities and measures to fulfill this duty. This will be the case now, too.

HATZOFE writes that the quantities of arms discovered in southern Lebanon in the course of the IDF searches leave no doubt that the departure of terrorist elements from the northern part of the country for the south is known by the local leaders, primarily those belonging to Amal. These leaders must decide whether they are inclined to accept this terrorist activity and the resultant dangers, rather than have peace and quiet for the local population. Israel will not be able to remain indifferent to the organization of any hostile elements that might endanger the well-being and safety of its northern border.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that the recent intelligence errors require some looking into, but that their most dangerous aspect is that they might lead to particularly grave political mistakes. The lesson that should be learned from the kidnapping and the massive military reaction should be that from now on we must closely adhere to the principle of carefully thinking through all the options before taking action. Politicians' leadership is judged, among other things, by their ability not to be forced into following strong-arm military recommendations. In withdrawing to the security strip, there is room to ask once again whether the area

truly fulfills a positive security role, or whether its complete evacuation might not better serve Israel's defense and political objectives.

Continuing Reportage, Reaction to Husayn Speech

Clarifications on Murphy Message Requested

TA210948 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Feb 86 p 1

["Exclusive" report from the United States by Tzvi Bar'el, and by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpts] Washington — The U.S. Administration confirmed yesterday that it has consented to invite the PLO to an international conference if it adopts the UN resolutions, recognizes Israel's right to exist, and ceases to embrace terrorism. Moreover, administration officials also confirmed that Israel had prior knowledge of this U.S. position.

The Prime Minister's Office Knew

'Aqiva Eldar, *HA'ARETZ* political correspondent, reports that King Husayn's statement about a message from U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy regarding Palestinian representation in the international conference confirmed information Jerusalem had on promises Murphy made on these issues without Israel's consent. The Prime Minister's Office knew for some weeks that Murphy had promised Husayn that the PLO would be allowed to participate in the conference if it recognizes UN Resolution 242, and that Israel would not be able to veto the names of Palestinian candidates for the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The Foreign Ministry reported yesterday that the Israeli Embassy in Washington will request clarifications from the State Department on this matter.

Rosenne, Armacost Meet on U.S. Stand

TA221724 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] The United States has said there has been no deviation in its pronounced policy in which it agrees to include the PLO in an international peace conference. Our correspondent in Washington, Razi Barqay, reports that U.S. Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost met last night with Israeli Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne and told him that Washington had said that under certain conditions the PLO is a partner to negotiations.

The ambassador said that Israel was not informed in advance of Washington's plan to agree to the PLO's participation in an international conference. The Israeli ambassador and the under secretary of state agreed that a crisis in bilateral relations on this matter should not be created, because the idea of an international conference has been shelved for the moment.

The meeting with the under secretary of state was arranged after Israel requested clarifications from Washington on the document submitted to King Husayn.

Understanding Reached on Conference

TA230559 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Feb 86

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem say there is an understanding between the U.S. and Israel that no party would take part in an international peace conference without the agreement of all sides. Israel made clear its opposition to the participation of the PLO in the peace talks.

Peres Denies Change in U.S. Policy

TA231500 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1452 GMT 23 Feb 86

[Text] The prime minister has said that the United States did not report to Israel on any change in its position toward the PLO, and that the reports stating that approximately a month ago Israel was informed that the United States was prepared to invite the PLO to an international peace conference under certain conditions, are incorrect. Mr Peres made these remarks during the Cabinet session in response to a question by Minister Sharon. He added that at the moment clarifications are being conducted with the United States in connection with things King Husayn said in his address.

U.S. Stand 'Clarified'

TA240934 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Feb 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday reiterated that he had not received any report about a change in the U.S. position regarding the inclusion of the PLO in an international conference. Replying to a query by Minister Ari'el Sharon at the Cabinet session yesterday, Peres said that clarifications are currently under way between Israel and the United States in the wake of King Husayn's speech which mentioned a U.S. message on the matter. The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent points out that the Prime Minister's Office believes that the United States has made it clear that if the PLO were to accept the conditions spelled out by the United States for its participation in the negotiations, the UN secretary general would have no choice but to summon his organization to a conference. Knowledgeable sources in Jerusalem point out that U.S. envoy Richard Murphy explained to Peres that under such circumstances the United States would not object to including the PLO in the conference and Peres did not voice any objections. At the same time, the Americans emphasized that the question of the Palestinian representatives would be determined in coordination with all the concerned parties, including Israel.

Shamir Receives Shultz Message

TA242110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz says there is no change in his government's stance on PLO participation in negotiations in the Middle East. Our political correspondent

Shim'on Schiffer reports this was stated in a message which U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering handed to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening.

The foreign minister said that several questions are still outstanding, regarding the U.S. position in the wake of King Husayn's disclosure that indirect negotiations with the PLO had been held. He also said Israel is opposed to the U.S. position whereby negotiations with the PLO will be possible if this organization recognizes Israel and abandons the path of terror.

Arens Terms Speech 'Good News'

TA221224 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Interview with Minister Moshe Arens by David Essing; place and date not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Essing] Likud Minister Moshe Arens says King Husayn's step of suspending his political coordination with PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat is good news:

[Arens] What we heard from King Husayn, although I understand the speech was delivered with a rather sad demeanor, and I understand he even shed some tears in the process, actually I think it is good news for us, and I think it is good news for him, because removing the PLO from the process sets the stage, makes it the least theoretically possible that we can advance in the peace process. The major obstacle, as it has been for the past 19 years, ever since the 6-Day War, and if you like maybe even before the 6-Day War, since 1948, is the domestic political constraints under which King Husayn has to operate in Jordan.

I am sure that many Israelis cannot restrain a smile when they hear King Husayn talk about the Jordanian nation and the relationship between the Jordanian nation and the Palestinian nation, and most Israelis might ask themselves the rhetorical question: How long has a Jordanian nation existed, for 2,000 years, 1,000 years, 500 years, 50 years? We know there is no such thing as a Jordanian nation and King Husayn; maybe that is part of his problem. He's the king of a country whose entire population is Palestinian, and to that you might add the fact, of course, that King Husayn does not have to lie awake at night being concerned that if he does not negotiate he is going to be attacked by Israel. He knows that he will not be attacked by Israel. He knows that he has got all the time in the world in terms of his concerns and the security of the country that he runs, so it is only when he will find that the opportunity is right, when the circumstances in his perception will permit him without endangering his position on the throne to ente negotiations that he will enter negotiations.

MA'ARIV Calls For Israeli Move

TA231315 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 Feb 86 p 10

[Editorial: "The King's Speech"]

[Text] King Husayn's remarks at the end of last week concluded a chapter in the political process, the aim of which was to promote an Israeli arrangement with Jordan, with the participation of the Palestinians. Following failure, some self-scrutiny is called for: What are the positive points; what are our liabilities? In addition, where do we go from here?

On the positive side, we see that for the first time we are not being blamed for every failure. For the first time we are not displaying stubbornness, but are displaying a flexibility to seek means to move forward the peace process. The PLO has been fully exposed as an organization that cannot be talked to and that does not keep its word. Israel has always claimed this. This time King Husayn declared this in public -- not that any such supportive evidence was necessary. Nevertheless, it is good that such remarks have come from a pro-Western Arab leader.

On Israel's liability side is the fact that the "Jordanian strategy" has failed. This was based on the assumption that Husayn would be prepared to enter into negotiations with Israel alone, without the PLO and without its consent, if they were conducted under an international umbrella. This assessment was incorrect. As a result, several of Israel's positions have been eroded, mainly on the question of the international conference. Some erosion has also taken place in the U.S. attitude toward the PLO, which now necessitates clarifications from the U.S. Administration.

Now two things are necessary: A renewed, painful self-examination regarding the political process with Jordan which Israel has adopted until now; and a decision regarding the new political line that should be adopted, in particular concerning the territories. Israel must make a move.

DAVAR: Husayn Open to Cooperation

TA231330 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 Feb 86 p 7

[Commentary by Hagay Eshed: "It's Too Early To Eulogize Him"]

[Text] In his speech, King Husayn clarified the main bone of contention between himself and the PLO, which is also the bone of contention between him and the Soviet Union. These are the two sides of the same coin, and for some reason the Soviet side received [affirmative as published] appropriate attention, although it is the first side, while 'Arafat's PLO is the second.

The dispute is over the establishment of an independent PLO state led by the PLO, which goes by the codewords "recognition of the right to self-determination" for the Palestinian people. This slogan is juxtaposed to the motto "recognition of the legitimate rights" of the Palestinian people, which does not negate an independent state but by the same token does not demand it either. According to King Husayn's version, they allow and require the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation (in accordance with the Jordan-PLO accord of 11 February 1985) under Jordanian hegemony and with Amman as its capital.

The source of this argument has prevented the holding of an international conference involving the five superpowers and the summoning of a PLO delegation together with the other participants. Yasir 'Arafat and the Soviets are demanding, as a precondition, that the United States and Jordan promise that the

purpose of the conference be one: The establishment of an independent Palestinian state (not a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation) led by the PLO. That is why the Soviets and the PLO have been demanding that recognition of "the right to self-determination", not only recognition of the Palestinian people's "legitimate rights," be a precondition. King Husayn objects to this even more firmly than the United States. He said in his speech that it is not the business of the United States to interfere in ironing out the differences between Jordan and the Palestinian people.

This is the main novelty in Husayn's address. Thus far, Israel has done his job for him. It was Israel that presented open opposition to a Palestinian state, while he only expressed his opposition meekly. Now Husayn says this clearly: "No" to an independent Palestinian state; "No" to recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination; and consequently, "No" to the PLO under Yasir 'Arafat. This also includes a "No" to the Soviet Union, which anticipated this move and said "Nyet" to the Jordanian-Palestinian accord, and therefore, also "No" to a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and another "No" to U.S. mediation between Israel and Jordan (and the PLO).

This is the heart and core of it all: The PLO has become enslaved to the Soviet Union already at this stage, which is why, at Moscow's behest, it rejected all the U.S.-Jordanian proposals. The PLO will be bound by the Soviet spell even more if an independent Palestinian state is established under its leadership. This state will initially be a Soviet base in the Middle East, in the heart of Israel and Jordan and in dangerous proximity to Syria, which also opposes the establishment of such a state particularly under Yasir 'Arafat ("the Soviet agent"). President al-Asad would rather see "Syrian agents" interspersed among the split and divided PLO organizations.

This is King Husayn's vicious circle. Each link in this chain leads to the next, both in the positive sense and in the negative sense. Anyone who says "No" to the PLO and "No" to an independent Palestinian state led by the PLO actually says "Yes" to Jordan and to King Husayn as the only possible partner to making progress in peace and to solving the Palestinian problem, mainly in the territories.

This is the practical message of King Husayn's speech. He appealed to the Arab countries to repeal the Rabat and Fes resolutions regarding the exclusive representation by the PLO. If not that, let them at least agree to freezing them, shelving them, and calling them a dead letter. Just as with many other Arab resolutions, he called upon the Arab countries — most of them, or at least some of them — to support Jordan as the main factor that can salvage what can be salvaged of the territories and their Palestinian inhabitants by peaceful ways before it is too late.

Such an Arab blessing can only be given in secret. At the moment, the Arab world is too divided, too weak (due to the drop in the price of oil), and too scared (in the face of the Iranian threat and the danger of fundamentalist and Shi'ite Islam) to adopt resolutions that would mark a firm and brave turning point. If King Husayn's request is heeded, even in a hushed voice, many of the inhabitants of the territories and their leaders will be able to join it and cooperate with the King and his envoys.

As the skies clear and the Arab countries' reaction to Husayn's speech is made known, Israel will be able to decide on its next moves. The "Jordanian option" will most likely remain the sole option for negotiations on the promotion of peace and on solving the problem of the territories and their residents. This is the option of the "open bridges," which is the option of "the functional compromise" which actually exists and which should be reinforced even more. More and more functions (authority) should be devolved from Israel to Jordan and the local population, but this should be done without those "unilateral" declarations that are nothing but a provocations. It would be better to do this quietly and not come out with deterring declarations. This is the only sphere in which the PLO can also be interested. This is the only way to change the status quo in the territories in the direction of promoting peace and solving the Palestinian problem. The "open bridges" can and should be widened. King Husayn's speech not only did not block the road to this, but removed the main obstacle by including a clear and reasoned "Nay" to Yasir 'Arafat and to an independent Palestinian state under his leadership (and under Soviet hegemony). It would be premature to eulogize King Husayn. He remains the only factor to hold a dialogue with.

HA'ARETZ on Peace Moves

TA241410 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Feb 86 p 7

[Commentary by Tzvi Bar'el: "An Irreversible Process"]

[Text] Until Husayn's speech last week, U.S. officials went to great lengths to make it abundantly plain that "the United States will do nothing for the sides as long as they are not prepared to do something for themselves." The need to emphasize this position stemmed from the fact that Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians were looking to the United States with the hope that it might intervene. Israel was looking for U.S. support and backing; Jordan was looking for "persuasion"; and the Palestinians were after pressure. Both Jordan and the Palestinians adhere to their position that "If the Americans push the economic button, Israel will be ready to make any compromise." For its part, Israel has been exploiting traditional U.S. positions and considers the PLO as a safety valve against a possible erosion and "a push of the button."

The United States has found itself bound by political declarations in the past and by current steamrolling congressional pressure which has not allowed it any leeway in the political process; it was pushed into a position in which it was forced to explain why it could not take part in the game. However, it seems that almost on purpose, every visit of a U.S. representative to the Middle East and every meeting with an Israeli or Jordanian figure always left the ball in the U.S. court. Peres' public flexibility, his positive statements, and his praise for Husayn, compounded by Husayn's utterances even after the bombing in Tunis and the interception of the Libyan plane, cleared them of any possible "blame" and reduced efforts to find a diplomatic formula which would bring Palestinian representatives to the negotiating table.

Here, once again the United States found itself in a trap. A clear-cut formula for U.S. support for self-determination for the Palestinians — namely, the establishment of a Palestinian state even if it is in the context of the Husayn-'Arafat agreement or, in other words, a confederation — would have disrupted the harmony between Peres and Husayn. Its unwillingness to generate such a formula drew attention to the administration.

The sense of liberation and the sigh of relief came in the wake of the speech made by Husayn who placed full responsibility on the PLO and its leaders but did not utter one word of accusation at the United States as he had done 2 years ago. The State Department spokesman did not hesitate to use the speech and join in its conclusions. Husayn actually pulled the chestnuts out of the fire for the United States which now owes no more explanations. Therefore, this is also a good time for the administration to take a hands off policy as regards any new initiatives, and this will also be its policy until further notice.

Crises easier to solve will replace the Middle East: The elections in the Phillipines, relations with Nicaragua, and aid to the rebels in Angola will be given precedence; whereas in the Middle East, the Iran-Iraq war -- which has now gained momentum -- will replace the dispute between Israel and its neighbors. The truce will give the administration an opportunity to treat the dispute as a hobby, both in terms of the time and means dedicated to it, and in importance, particularly in view of the fact that by any possible analysis the situation does not harbor any immediate threat of war or endanger any U.S. interests in the region.

This situation also calls for political laziness by the parties directly involved in the conflict. As long as the United States was involved and its representatives shuttled around the Middle East there was also an urge to use our brain trusts, improve formulas, raise proposals, and wake the public. The fact that the United States has pulled out of the process by declaring a truce ("It was not us but rather Jordan that declared it," according to a U.S. official) detracts from the urgency of finding a solution.

However, this is just one way of dealing with the truce. There is another possibility: to draw a general balance of what has been achieved in the past year, starting from the change in Husayn's position to the effect that he does not demand an a priori promise about the results of the peace talks, and going through the compromise he reached with 'Arafat in their agreement of February 1985, Israel's willingness to take part in an international conference, agreement on the establishment of direct debating teams after the opening of the conference, Israel's willingness to include Palestinians who are not "wishy-washy" but who have a distinct political orientation -- not necessarily Jordanian -- and, finally, Jordan's agreement to pull out 'Arafat, even if only temporarily.

This is definitely a list of achievements which, with a certain element of risk, may be described as "irreversible." This will be the basis for the political talks, if they resume. All the agreements made so far will also be binding on the government in the future unless we want to be regarded as a one-man state, as we tend to describe the Arab countries.

RAKAH Delegation To Meet PLO at CPSU Congress

TA210931 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 21 Feb 86 p 4

[Report by party affairs correspondent Dorit Gefen]

[Text] A RAKAH delegation headed by Me'ir Wilner and Central Committee member Salim Qasim leaves this morning for Moscow to participate in the 27th CPSU Congress. We have learned that the congress, which is scheduled to last more than a week with the participation of representatives from communist parties and national movements from all over the world, will include, among others, a joint [as published] PLO delegation. The RAKAH spokesman told our correspondent last night that the RAKAH delegation members will meet with PLO representatives during the congress in Moscow. He emphasized that RAKAH will continue to meet with PLO representatives even if the bill banning such meetings is passed.

Kimche Fails To Secure Ties With Nigeria, Ghana

TA211257 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 21 Feb 86 p 2

[Report by Yosi Melman]

[Excerpt Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche has failed to persuade the leaders of Nigeria and Ghana to resume diplomatic relations with Israel. Kimche returned this week after a few days' junket in Africa. The Foreign Ministry spokesman refused to disclose what countries he had visited, but it has been learned that Kimche visited Lagos and Accra in the hope of persuading the leaders in those two capitals to resume diplomatic ties, especially since the Ivory Coast has done so.

Israel has a diplomatic representative in Ghana, but does not have one in Nigeria, despite the good economic ties with that country. The leaders of the two countries explained to Kimche that they do not think the time is propitious to resume relations, although they promised him that they hope to do so in the future. Meanwhile, they will continue to strengthen their relations with Israel, particularly in the economic sphere.

Alignment To Continue Talks With Likud On Economy

TA250521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] The Alignment ministers once again came out in support of the prime minister's demand to launch economic growth in all its aspects, including the establishment of a fund and a special ministerial team. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that nevertheless the Alignment ministers last night decided to continue the dialogue with the Likud, particularly with those ministers who voiced a positive approach to the demands stemming from the economic growth plan. In the meantime, the Alignment ministers decided to launch an information campaign to explain to the public that there is no alternative to growth and that the question is not just that of bailing out Solel Boneh [ailing Histadrut-affiliated construction company] and the agricultural sphere.

December Unemployment Down to Early 1985 Level

TA191000 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Feb 86 p 5

[Report by the economic affairs correspondent]

[Excerpt] In December 1985, the number of unemployed reached 5.4 percent of the civilian labor force, close to the unemployment rate registered early that year, before the implementation of the economic program.

This development, reported in a discussion held recently in a Treasury forum, caused great surprise among the participants in the forum as, contrary to the forecasts of the fathers of the economic program, it appears that the number of unemployed has not increased to the 10-percent point but rather, following a certain rise registered in the first few months of the economic program, dropped to the previous rate recorded at the beginning of the year. It should be pointed out that there is a discrepancy between the development of the unemployed [as published] and the unemployment rate computed according to the figures of unemployed who have been out of a job 6 days or more. This index indicated that there was an exacerbation of the state of unemployment in January. The overall 1985 average percentage of unemployed out of the entire civilian labor force reached 6.7 percent, the same rate that prevailed in the last quarter of 1985.

Briefs

IDF Appointment — Major General Uri Sagi today takes over as commander of the Southern Command, replacing Major General Moshe Bar-Kochba. In the coming period Maj Gen Bar-Kochba will be engaged in various areas within the framework of the General Staff. [Text] [*Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 23 Feb 86 TA*]

LIBYA

General People's Congress Meeting Begins 25 Feb

LD251019 Tripoli JANA in English 0948 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 15, Feb 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The General People's Congress has started this morning holding its sessions of its eleventh meeting in Qar Yunis University in the city of Bayan al-Awal (Banghazi). These sessions have come to formulate the resolutions passed by the basic people's congresses in their third regular meeting last year.

Al-Qadhdhafi Inspects Combat-Ready SAM Missile Sites

LD251134 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1120 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Feb (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution, the supreme commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, yesterday inspected some SAM-5 missile batteries which are now ready for combat. The range of these missiles is more than 200 km which covers the whole region of the Gulf of Sidra.

Al-Qadhdhafi on Gulf War, U.S. Israel, Egypt

NC241430 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 22 Feb 86 pp 1, 9

[Interview with Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by unidentified correspondent of the Lebanese *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI* magazine; date and place not given]

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has stated that the recent escalation in the Gulf war has come about in response to the Saudi oil position, which has harmed the interests of Libya, Algeria, and Iran. Saudi Arabia has aligned itself with those states which have not adhered to their production quotas as laid down by OPEC. Al-Qadhdhafi warned that this war will extend to the Gulf states unless the rate of oil production and oil prices are corrected.

In an interview to be published today in the magazine *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI*, Al-Qadhdhafi said that "there is no use in holding any dialogue with the United States." While expecting a resumption of the fighting in South Yemen, he said that the new forces in Aden are "unknown to us." He noted that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will visit the Libyan Jamahiriyah shortly to amend the Confederation of Arab Republics, which comprises Libya, Syria, and Egypt, and make it more effective.

Question: How do you think the U.S.-Libyan conflict will end?
Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not envisage an end to this conflict as long as there is a U.S. imperialist policy that desires to control the world and bring all areas under its influence. Essentially, the conflict is not one between Libya and the United States or between the U.S. President and so and so from Libya. What is between them and us is a glaring example of the situation which exists between imperialist America and every country in the world seeking freedon and wishing to live in peace and security. Therefore, there is a big contradiction between the aims of America and other states of the world. This contradiction can only be settled by expanding the circle of struggle. Consequently, the various nations must rise to confront American ambitions.

This must not conceal the fact that the conflict is ultimately a struggle between the superpowers, between the socialist camp and the imperialist camp, between the Soviet Union and the United States. However, other nations are the victims of this global struggle. The superpowers cannot clash without stepping into the areas inhabited by small nations. America believes it cannot encircle the Soviet Union unless it occupies the Arab homeland and controls the Mediterranean. Consequently, its bases must extend from Western Europe to the Mediterranean, to the Arab countries, and to its main base in occupied Palestine. The U.S. bases then extend to the Indian Ocean, the Philippines, and the Pacific. This is a strategic encirclement operation which cannot be implemented without subduing the peoples of this entire region — from the Philippines, to the Arab countries, to those states which have not entered into a pact with the United States, or which, unlike Israel, have refused to become bases for the United States. The United States believes that these regions must come under its influence. For this reason, it is using every weapon at its disposal, including provocation, terrorism, and force.

We in Libya have a special significance in the eyes of the United States. We are the force that is awakening the Arab will through our progressive and unionist concept. America sees Arab unity as a real danger to its interests and to the influence it has at the moment, thanks to the Arab homeland's division and to U.S. agents in the region. Therefore, in its struggle with us, the United States is trying to strike at the Arab homeland's real attempt at liberation and unity.

Therefore, while the United States adheres to its imperialist policy, and while we remain unliberated and disunited, there will be no end to the conflict. We must meet it with increased vigilance. We must also use every means of resistance in this struggle.

Question: Outside of the recent provocative exercises and the massing of ships and aircraft carriers, have there been any other contacts between you and the United States?
Al-Qadhdhafi: Several states have tried to mediate between us, including Yugoslavia, Greece, Malta, Algeria, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia. However, the United States has turned down all mediation attempts and insisted on achieving its ambitions through threats of force and economic war. We have felt from the beginning that there is no use in holding any dialogue with the United States. The only solution is confrontation. We accepted mediation, but they did not desire it. We accepted mediation in order to show our friends and Arab brothers the true objectives behind America's confrontation with us. We wanted the friendly and brotherly states to see that the U.S. pretexts were one thing and the U.S. objectives something else.

If the United States continues with these provocations, then we must introduce new elements into our conflict. We will be obliged to transfer the battle to the United States and its military bases through the revolutionary forces and the peoples allied with us. We will continue this action until America realizes its limits and

leaves the Arabs to liberate themselves, unite themselves, and build their own future.

Question: Arab sources have told *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI* that you had planned a naval strike against a target in Israel in anticipation of a threatened military action by Israel against Libya in the wake of the Vienna and Rome operations. Did you actually make preparations for such a strike, and if so, why was it called off?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That is correct, although the strike we had planned was an air and not a naval one. However, we called it off at the 11th hour because we thought it was a limited operation, which we did not want. We would have liked Israel to have made some kind of raid against Libya. This would have meant war. We then would have been entitled to stage an open-ended series of military operations which would have ended only when the Zionist entity was finished. We wanted the Zionists to carry out their threat so that we could be on their heels and surround them everywhere. In this state of war, we would have made everything in this region subject to the laws of war.

Question: From the standpoint of international law, do you think that the U.S. veto of the UN Security Council draft resolution condemning Israel for the hijacking of a Libyan plane justifies your own decision to hunt Israeli planes?
Al-Qadhdhafi: Certainly. Precedent is a source of legislation. For this reason I did not decide to chase Israeli civilian planes until after the United States had sanctioned such a course of action by using its veto power in the UN Security Council. We had been waiting for the conscience of the world to speak out, but the United States has rendered this conscience ineffective. Our only recourse is to act as they do.

Question: Did you hold any Arab or international consultations prior to your decision to chase Israeli planes?
Al-Qadhdhafi: We notified our allies and friends of this decision before we announced it, but we did not consult with them. We simply told them that we are implementing such a measure and that we wanted them to know about it, but we did not consult with them.

Question: How long will this decision remain in effect?
Al-Qadhdhafi: We do not intend to let up or give up. We will get them at some point.

Question: You are the commander of the Arab Revolution Forces. Does this mean that every operation conducted by a national command platoon requries your prior consent, or are there some operations which can be undertaken autonomously by these platoons without consultation with you?
Al-Qadhdhafi: Leadership does not mean that one should become involved with all the details and personally approve everything. This is the responsibility of the field command. I am not a field commander. I do not have to supervise every single operation. Mine is a national, political, and revolutionary leadership. I am interested in mobilizing national, revolutionary, and political efforts to achieve the final objectives of liberation and liberty. The means for action and the choice of targets are matters which concern every organization; they may even be classified among the secrets of a particular organization. We have no right to ask any group to give us these details, nor are we trying to claim such rights.

Question: There have been heated discussions during meetings of the popular conferences about the formation of death squads. Considering the already charged atmosphere, would such squads undertake operations now, or would they only act in case of an attack against the Jamahiriyah by the United States, Israel, or both?
Al-Qadhdhafi: The role of the death squads is in fact confined to the case when Libya or any other Arab country is attacked, whether this be by Israel or the United States. Any Israeli or U.S. attack against the Arab people would automatically send these squads into action to confront the aggression.

Question: Despite the popular anger which has been generated throughout the Arab world by the current U.S.-Libyan confrontation, it has been noticed that Arab labor unions and workers associations have remained rather cool. They were reluctant to take any measures against U.S. ships and planes in response to the American boycott on Libya. How would you explain this?
Al-Qadhdhafi: These labor unions and associations have becomme government organs. This is why they have responded in this manner. We are very proud that workers and popular organizations throughout the world demonstrated their support for us. Regrettably, however, this did not happen in the Arab world due to government control over the unions. Workers and organizations in many countries demonstrated at U.S. Embassies and clashed with police. But this did not happen in the Arab world. Governments here enjoy too much control. This is what we are fighting against. We want the power of governments to revert to the people. This is our theory.

Question: How true are reports about Sudanese mediation between Libya and Egypt?
Al-Qadhdhafi: Absolutely untrue. We are not seeking any mediation with Egypt. A meeting with Egypt for us would have only one point on its agenda, namely, that Egypt should get out of the Dawud barn [derogatory Libyan designation of Camp David]. This must be absolutely clear. We do not accept mediation. We do not want reconciliation. We will tighten the embargo on Egypt and we will make any individual or country which tries to break this embargo pay. Any country or individual who invests in Egypt to help the regime get by or to neutralize the effect of the Arab embargo, which has been ordered by the Arab League, is acting against the Arab will and against the sacred national cause.

Question: How do you interpret the Jamahiriyah's support for the new Sudanese regime in view of its continuing, special relationship with the Egyptian regime?
Al-Qadhdhafi: Everything now in Sudan is temporary. There is no fixed policy because there is no fixed authority. The 6 April people's revolution has come to a temporary halt because a transitional military regime took over, and because a transitional government was formed. This means that everything in Sudan is temporary, though based on the victory of the 6 April revolution and the victory of the people. Therefore, there is no doubt that we have to stand with the Sudan during this stage, because we support its popular revolution which has led to the present situation. However, when this temporary period is over and when the people's authority is firm, we certainly will not have relations

with any regime that recognizes the Israeli enemy, whether Egypt's or any other regime. We will stand with Egypt when it returns to lead the battle of liberation and unity, as was the case when Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir was alive. But, when Egypt takes the lead in a defeatist and reactionary course, we cannot stand with it, whether it involves Sudan, Libya, or any other place in the Arab homeland.

Question: The Jamahiriyah's stand with respect to the situation in the PDRY is not yet clear. Can you elaborate?
Al-Qadhdhafi: The information we have received so far indicates that the fighting has actually stopped, but the situation is still like a time bomb. Unfortunately, the fighting might start all over again. If this happens, it will be a regrettable and painful thing. We felt saddened when the fierce fighting broke out in Aden because the blood of thousands was shed. That blood could have been enough to liberate Palestine, or to liberate the whole area surrounding Yemen. But it is not easy for anyone to respond to people who have destroyed their country in this way. What kind of assistance can be given when they recklessly destroyed civilian targets with strategic rockets?

In general, the new forces in the PDRY are unknown to us. We have heard one or two of their names before, such as 'Ali Salim al-Bayd, who is a real revolutionary. I met him at the summit meeting preceding the death of 'Abd al-Nasir. The man came to Tripoli more than once, and during these visits I got to know him well. I consider him a personal friend; he is the only man among the leaders of the second and third rank that the Libyan leadership knows and considers a friend. However, we are not sure yet if he is really ruling the country or if he is just a figurehead. Those we knew are gone. 'Ali Nasir is out of the regime; 'Ali 'Antar, Salih Muslih, and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il were killed. These are the names of the leaders we used to know; the new names are unknown to us. We hope that the brothers in the PDRY will keep it a revolutionary country opposing imperialism and reaction. We hope that they will seriously try to unite Yemen and liberate Musqat and Oman, and will not betray the revolution. If there is any risk of a new outbreak, I call on all parties to resort to negotiation. We in the Jamahiriyah are ready to mediate between 'Ali Nasir and the other brothers so that they will not take up arms again.

Question: The Jamahiriyah has witnessed intensive moves regarding the crisis in oil prices. Have you adopted any plan to face this crisis?
Al-Qadhdhafi: I consider the oil crisis a real war, a very destructive one. It is not less harmful than a war with planes and gunboats that destroys factories and wastes the economic efforts of any country. This war is against Libya, Iran, and Algeria in particular. These three countries have been greatly harmed as a result of this war. Those who have waged this war are similar to or as dangerous as those who wage military wars. Before I disclose the most dangerous aspect of this question, I want to backtrack a bit. We all know that Saudi Arabia was not responsible at the outset. The violations that led to the present oil crisis were those of other Arab countries, particularly Iraq; other OPEC members such as Nigeria under the rule of the previous regimes; and some Arab emirates such as Dubay and Sharjah. Abu Dhabi is an exception, because it has acted outside the framework of the organization, and has exported its oil according to the mood of its rulers — any quantity and any price. These countries are the ones that have violated the production quota, which had been set at not more than 16 million barrels per day. Saudi Arabia in fact drew attention to the seriousness of these violations and their effect on the future of the oil market. It issued several warnings but there was no response. Saudi Arabia has now absolved itself from its initial commitment and begun to flood the market. Saudi Arabia is to be held responsible for all that is taking place. The problem, however, was actually generated by those states that failed to abide by their oil production quotas. With its recent actions, Saudi Arabia has committed the same sin, although I can see a justification and I am on its side. Saudi Arabia had always warned against tampering with production quotas and prices, but the others practiced treacherous methods to sell above their specified quotas and at reduced prices. However, the Saudi move has seriously affected countries such as Libya, Algeria, and Iran. Therefore, unless Saudi Arabia abides by its assigned quota, namely, 3 million barrels or less, the situation will be further aggravated. I would like to divulge here a grave secret: The recent stage in the Gulf war was in response to this position. I warn the Gulf oil countries that this war will expand and will escalate unless everyone cuts production to the allowed levels. We in Libya, Algeria, and Iran cannot keep silent about the oil war declared on us. Therefore, the Gulf war will escalate with renewed momentum unless prices and quotas are observed. I had earlier made this prediction in a statement to Italy's *LA STAMPA*, but they did not publish it. Before Iran crossed the Shatt al-'Arab, I said that unless the prices were amended and overproduction stopped, the Gulf war would escalate within a few days. I predict now, through *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI*, that the war will escalate and expand to involve all oil-producing countries in the area unless the Gulf countries stop the price and quota war. This war declared on us is quite serious. They are declaring war on our livelihood, the health of our elderly, and the education of our children. We will not allow this to happen.

Question: Once again Chad is at the top of the news. What is your position now that France has responded to Habre's request and has sent troops to Chad?
Al-Qadhdhafi: I concluded an amicable agreement with Mitterrand in Crete. This agreement is based on the following points:

1. Libya and France shall refrain from sending troops to Chad no matter what takes place. We expected the struggle between Goukouni and Habre to continue because this struggle is tribal, sectarian, and racial. Nevertheless, France and Libya must refrain from sending troops to Chad whether the struggle continues or escalates.
2. If France or any other foreign forces enter Chad, Libya will have the right to send its troops back there.
3. France and Libya will make all efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Chadian problem and persuade the combatants to negotiate. Since then we have made strenuous efforts to work out a peaceful solution to the Chadian problem and convince all parties to negotiate. We managed to persuade certain friendly parties like General (Gabriel Goukou) to hold negotiations with Habre. These parties actually held negotiations with Habre.

We were surprised when fighting broke out while we in Libya were occupied with confronting the United States at sea. We

were told later that Goukouni had uncovered a colonialist ploy that enabled Habre to gain control of Chad, and that there was a plan to establish U.S. bases in Chad. The United States had told France that it wanted to set up military bases in Chad, considering that France has bases in the Cameroon and Central Africa, not to mention bases in Gabon and the Ivory Coast. Therefore, France does not need bases in Chad. French troops deployed in African bases are capable of operating inside Chad.

In fact, the United States is establishing a base in the Niger, and is getting ready to establish another in Chad. Goukouni discovered that his country would be sold out and that the 16th parallel had become a permanent line dividing Chad into two states. At a time when his relations with us were at an ebb, he launched the offensive of his own accord. The offensive was launched at an ideal time, according to Goukouni: After he managed to unify the political front in the wake of the lengthy meetings in Benin, Brazzaville, and Algeria. The unity of the political front has led to the reformation of the government and reorganization of the forces. Goukouni believed that the continuation of the political stalemate meant capitulation to Habre and bringing Chad under the control of the United States and France.

Goukouni believed this, basing himself on documents and information that he obtained from Ndjamena. Relying on his own counsel, he launched his offensive of which we had been unaware until after it had taken place. This made us refrain from giving him any assistance in this war. We have called on all parties to resume peaceful negotiations. As we were calling for negotiations, however, France surprised us with its air attack on the Doum airfield. This airfield is far from the area of military operations and has nothing to do with the military efforts. Doum is the only civilian airfield in northern Chad and was built to transport food and medicine. It is well known that most of the aircraft that use this airfield belong to the Red Cross and Red Crescent. There were civilians and engineers at the Doum airfield who were the victims of a treacherous act of aggression by France. What is worse is that it was announced that this attack was on orders from Mitterrand himself. I am surprised that Mitterrand would give orders to strike at a civilian airport used by the Red Cross and Red Crescent to bring supplies to the famine-stricken people of northern Chad. I have really tried to excuse the French president. I said to myself, he might have been misled by false reports about the purpose of this airport. Perhaps he is sorry for what he did now that he has found out that the airport is a civilian one. They again misinformed him when they told him that the airport had been completely destroyed. As a matter of fact, the airport has not been destroyed and the air raid was a failure. The evidence is th[illegible]he Red Crescent has not stopped using it. However, certain R[illegible]d Crescent employees now hesitate to use this airport for fear that France may again make the same ugly mistake. Everyone knows that Goukouni Oueddei recently received fighter aircraft. He also held graduation ceremonies for his pilots. Early this morning, these pilots retaliated for the French air raid by launching a successful air raid on Ndjamena airport, the counterpart of Doum airport. There is a government in the north and another one in the south. Since France gave itself the right to try to destroy the Doum airport, Goukouni has the right to destroy the Ndjamena airport.

Question: Let us go over to your constant concern: Unity. Unity talks were held with Algeria a few days ago, and there are reports about successful talks in Damascus. So, what's new?
Al-Qadhdhafi: I expect that the talks in Algeria will culminate in a declaration of union within the next few months.

Question: Don't you think that unity with Algeria will affect your federation with Morocco?
Al-Qadhdhafi: Quite the contrary, because the two unions complement each other. I view these unions as a step toward a confederation of the Arab Maghreb.

Question: Don't you feel that union with Algeria will lead to conflict with Morocco?
Al-Qadhdhafi: This could not happen. The Arab African federation with Morocco has achieved major successes and is hardy enough to survive. In addition, the Oujda agreement permits the Moroccan and Libyan states to set up federation with other countries. Our federation with Algeria in addition to our federation with Morocco will be a step toward confederation uniting the Arab Maghreb. We hope that through both federations we can solve the Sahara problem so that we can all direct our guns at the Zionist enemy.

Question: What about the Syrian part in the union?
Al-Qadhdhafi: The Confederation of Arab Republics, which includes Libya, Syria, and Egypt, will be amended so that it can be more effective. I expect to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad in Libya in the near future to proclaim a form of advanced union within the framework of the Confederation of Arab Republics.

Question: What would be Egypt's status in this confederation?
Al-Qadhdhafi: We consider Egypt to be a constitutional member of this confederation. We will do our duty toward Egypt in accordance with the constitution of the Confederation of Arab Republics. A referendum was held in Egypt regarding this constitution and the Egyptian people unanimously approved it.

Question: What do you mean by doing your constitutional duty toward Egypt?
Al-Qadhdhafi: I repeat what I have said: Egypt is a member of the Confederation of Arab Republics, and the constitution of this confederation brings with it duties toward Egypt, which we will exercise in a constitutional way and in accordance with constitutional norms. I thanked the leader of the 1 September revolution for affording me the opportunity to meet with him and for giving *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI* important information. I said goodbye to the man who always has many surprises because he advocates clarity and holds on to his dream.

Further Reportage on Visit of Nigerian Minister

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD241949 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Feb (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution received today at noon Mr Bolaji Akinyemi, the Nigerian minister of external affairs and personal envoy of President Ibrahim Babangida, the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The envoy handed brother leader of the

revolution three written messages from the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The first message concerns the bilateral relations between Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and Nigeria and the intention of President Ibrahim Babangida to visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and stresses the importance of the exchanges of visits between the two countries in consolidating the bases of joint cooperation and coordination.

The second message stressed the importance of joint action between the Socialist People's Libyan Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Nigeria in dealing with African issues within an African framework in order to stress the ability of the continent to find solutions for its problems without any foreign intervention. The Nigerian president praised the role played by brother leader of the revolution in settling the armed conflict between the Jamahiriyah of Burkina [as received] and the Republic of Mali, a role through which the cooperation and coordination between the two countries took an effective and fruitful form.

The third message concerned the development of the situation in Chad as a result of the French intervention, and the interest of Nigeria and Libya in exerting joint efforts towards settling the problem of Chad within an African framework and through African efforts and within the framework of the OAU in order to achieve peace and steability in this African country.

Concludes Visit, Departs
LD242231 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1702 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Feb (JANA) — Bolaji Akinyemi, Nigeria's minister of external affairs, and the accompanying delegation, this evening left Tripoli at the end of his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Jallud Arrives in Moscow, Met by Arkhipov
LD241742 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1657 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Tripoli 24 Feb (JANA) — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud today at noon arrived in Moscow on a visit to the Soviet Union to attend the regular meetings of the 27th CPSU Congress, scheduled to start tomorrow morning. An official reception was held at Moscow airport for Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud. He was welcomed by Mr Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and member of the CPSU Central Committee; and Mr (?Magininz) minister of higher education, and a number of officials from the CPSU Central Committee. The welcoming ceremony was also attended by the secretary and members of the People's Libyan Arab Bureau in Moscow.

Statement Condemns U.S. Maneuvers in Korea
LD241354 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1120 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Feb (JANA) — The People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau has issued a statement on the U.S. maneuvers in the Korean peninsula. Here is the text:

Continuing its policy of aggression, acts of terrorism, and provocative behavior, on which is based the policy of the leader of international terrorism — the United States — which aims at imposing imperialist domination and hegemony on peace-loving peoples in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the United States is carrying out acts of aggression terrorizing the friendly Korean people by staging military maneuvers on the Korean Peninsula and near its shores, similar to the provocative maneuvers it is staging opposite the Arab Libyan shores.

The People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau from its deep-rooted conviction that the cause of freedom is indivisible, from its commitment to support the cause of freedom in all parts of the world, and from the embodiment of the bonds of common struggle and friendship linking the two peoples of Libya and Korea, strongly condemns the aggressive acts carried out by the U.S. administration against the Korean people. It considers that this behavior constitutes a blatant intervention and provocative act aimed at imposing imperialist hegemony. It declares its solidarity with the friendly Korean people.

JANA Political Editor Views Efforts Toward Arab Unity
LD231533 Tripoli JANA in English 1410 GMT 23 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli. Jumada Athani, 12, Feb. 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — On the unionist efforts being exerted by the Great 1 September Revolution, and its earnest and constant endeavours towards the realisation of the Arab people's wishes and aspirations for total unity, on the occasion of 28th anniversary of the Union between Al-Nasir's Egypt and Syria, the political editor pointed out that the Algerian capital, in the last few days, witnessed unionist meetings between Libya and Algeria. He added "within the framework of constant unionist action by the Great 1 September Revolution, the establishment of the Arab-African Union between Jamahiriyah and Morocco was declared in execution of the historical treaty of Ouedjda.

The most prominent efforts made by the Great 1 September Revolution, since its inception, towards total Arab unity, even in phases, [were] the signing of Tripoli Unionist Charter embracing the Arab countries of Syria, Egypt, Sudan and Libya, followed by the establishment of the united Arab republics between Libya, Egypt and Syria. The Unionist Declaration of Djerba, the Communique of Hassi Messaoud and the integral union between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Syrian Arab Republic. [sentence as received]

The growing unionist efforts affirm that, whatever the attachment of Arab rulers to their hollow chairs may be, the flood of united Arab masses, naturally, will overwhelm them and destroy their scepter. Thus the Arab masses become their own decision makers, united masses from ocean to the Gulf, controlling power and wealth and arms.

Regardless of plot and conspiracies against our nation and its hope which always remained the goal and purpose for which blood and lives deserve to be sacrificed and whatever the attempts of the enemies of unity and its opponents and their low and vile efforts to water down the burning pan-Arab feeling in our chests, we the sons of the Arab nation, despite all these attempts with

the guidance of the guardian of Arab nationalism and (?opinion) of the masses era, will assert our existence on earth with the might of our united revolution and the courage of its leader. Our aim is a united nation and our green flag embracing the [words indistinct] heralding, to the Arab individual from the ocean to the Gulf, freedom, dignity and regain usurped Arab rights confronting American imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries blowing up the (?roots) with our bodies, which we will turn into dynamite and explosives to live free or fall as martyrs for a nation which decided to be united living in freedom and dignity on earth and under the sun.

MOROCCO

Lebanon's Al-Jumayyil Meets With Syrian Ambassador

NC212153 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil received Ahmad 'Isa, Syria's ambassador to Morocco, in Morocco at 2230 today. The meeting took place at the request of the Syrian ambassador who had conveyed his wish to meet with the president to Lebanon's ambassador to Morocco.

Leaves Marrakech

LD221419 Rabat MAP in English 1303 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Marrakech, Feb 22. (MAP) — Lebanese President Amin Al-Jumayyil left Marrakech this Saturday after a private visit to Morocco during which he as received by King Hassan II of Morocco. Mr Al-Jumayyil was greeted at the airport by Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed, minister of interior and information Driss Basri, adviser to the King Ahmed Bensouda and many civil and military personalities. President al-Jumayyil had arrived in Marrakech on Thursday coming from Rome where he had conferred with Pope John Paul II and Italian Premier Bettino Craxi.

SUDAN

President, Prime Minister Discuss Violence, Elections

JN241155 Khartoum SUNA in English 1005 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 24 (SUNA) — Political violence and registration for the forthcoming elections loomed high in yesterdays meeting of the TMC Chairman Gen Siwar al-Dhahab and Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah.

Daf'allah told reporters that the issue of political violence that broke out in the country dominated his talks with Gen Siwar al-Dhahab and that they discussed best ways of containing the phenomenon in the future. He said he is awaiting the findings of the committees assigned to investigate the recent incident in the country warning that unfounded and baseless accusations could only lead to more violence.

It should be mentioned that political clashes in Port Sudan Eastern Sudan had left 16 people dead beginning of this month further more recent political conflict at the Cairo University (Khartoum Branch) has left two students dead and several others hospitalized while the university was closed due to the outbreak of violence.

Daf'allah Views Southern Problem, Elections, Riots

JN241757 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum Feb 24 (SUNA) — The government is committed to dialogue to achieve a peaceful solution for the southern problem, affirmed Premier al-Jazuli Daf'allah in his regular press meeting today with pressmen.

Every time we try to extend channels for dialogue we are met with negative response from the other side, added Daf'allah, referring to Sudanese Peoples Liberation Movement leaders as the other side. Daf'allah called upon the citizens to cooperate and soldify in a bid to surmount the country's current inherited problems and to stick at the same time to democracy and multiparty system.

On the forthcoming elections he said that registration for these elections which was concluded yesterday (Sunday) represents an important phase in the whole election process.

On the recent riots incidents in Khartoum University (Cairo branch) Al-Ubayyid and Port Sudan towns, Daf'allah urged the political parties to cooperate with the government to contain and to guarantee the halt of this intruding phenomenon. He further reiterated the government's neutrality regarding political conflicts among the political parties.

Concerning the veterinary surgeons' demand to earmark a ministry for animal resources, the premier said that a last conception of the matter is about to be set up by the agriculture minister and will be submitted to the Cabinet for endorsement.

Deputy Chairman Calls for National Government

GF221859 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1820 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Feb (SUNA) — Lieutenant General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, deputy chairman of the Transitional Military Council [TMC], has stated that Sudan is the target of foreign powers and that there are dangers facing Sudan in the current stage of the country's history.

He said: These reasons have forced him to propose the establishment of a national government following the elections. He pointed out that this idea was presented to the leaders of most political forces and parties, who unanimously agreed on the need to form a national government after the elections.

He stated that he is ready to hold a press conference to explain the views of party leaders and their unanimity on the establishment of a national government to exonerate the TMC and the Armed Forces from the rumors and allegations that the TMC is holding on to the power.

Prime Minister Receives Chadian President's Envoy

JN241843 Khartoum SUNA in English 1738 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 24 (SUNA) — Premier al-Jazuli Daf'allah met here today with the Chadian president's special envoy Mahamat Nori in the presence of the Chadian ambassador here. Nori explained in a press statement after the meeting that he acquainted the premier with the latest events in Chad and the evolution of the situation in the country after the opposition leaders raid on Oum Chalouba airport on the green line separating the Libyan-backed rebel forces and the governmental forces backed by France. The Chadian envoy reaffirmed his country's keenness over solidifying and promoting bilateral relations stemming from mutual interests.

FRG Delegation Arrives for Economic Talks

GF221809 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Feb (SUNA) — An FRG Government delegation arrived in the country recently on a 3-week visit to discuss aspects of economic cooperation between the two countries. During its visit the delegation will meet with officials at the Finance and Planning Ministry and at the units using FRG aid. It will also visit the projects being executed by the FRG aid in Port Sudan, Madani, Sinnar, Kosti, and Al-Fashir to discuss the needs of these projects. These projects include water supply, agriculture, and rural development.

Finance Minister Announces Austerity Measures

JN241857 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 24 Feb (SUNA) — It was decided here today that two prices will be defined for some commodities within the framework of the government's recent austerity measures to reform the economic course and take steps toward increasing national savings. The former price of 75 piasters for one gallon of gasoline was cancelled and it was also decided that 24 percent of the daily quota of oil byproducts will be sold at special pump stations at 11 pounds for a gallon of super gasoline and at 10 pounds for a gallon of regular gasoline. It was also decided that 25 or 30 percent of the sugar quota will be sold in the free market and to industries at 60 piasters a pound.

Dr Sayyid Ahmad Tayfur, minister of finance and economic planning, who announced these measures today in a statement during the prime minister's regular meeting with media officials, said that the return from these measures, aimed at covering the budget deficit over the next 4 months of the fiscal year, will amount to 172-178 million pounds. He stated out that this step will be taken on the assumption that the deficit will not increase by the end of the fiscal year.

The minister denied any connection between these measures and the IMF's recommendations, saying they are aimed at economic reform. He also said taht the IMF may consider these measures to be sound and stressed the need for citizens to adhere to their right to buy commodities at fixed prices, adding that the government is trying hard to provide basic commodities for citizens through bilateral agreements.

The minister also affirmed that while it is taking these measures, the government will not impose new burdens on the masses, adding that the decision to raise the prices of some commodities such as sugar came, as its price increased by about 3 piasters a pound. He also noted that the first part of the budget dealing with salaries and wages, amounts to 1200 million pounds.

TUNISIA

Gabon's Bongo Arrives, Met by Bourguiba

LD241523 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Today marks the beginning of the visit of His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo, president of the Gabonese Republic and founding secretary general of the Gabonese Democratic Party, to Tunisia. The visit, which ends on 27 February, is at the invitation of President Habib Bourguiba.

President El Hadj Omar Bongo was welcomed at Tunis Carthage International Airport by President Habib Bourguiba, prime minister and interior minister Mohamed Mzali and his wife, members of the government, and the Politburo of the Destourian Socialist Party.

President Habib Bourguiba later met with the Gabonese president, who was accompanied by his wife, and with the officials accompanying him on his visit to our country, at Al-Bayda Hall in the republican palace in Carthage.

ETHIOPIA

Delegations Arrive for OAU Conference

EA241916 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 24 Feb

[Text] Ministers from OAU member states have started arriving in Addis Ababa for the 43rd regular ministerial meeting due to open tomorrow. Foreign Ministers from Ghana, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Mauritius, the Mauritanian trade minister, Malawi's finance minister, the Somali deputy finance minister and the Seychelles ambassador arrived in Addis Ababa today. Foreign ministers from Lesotho and Liberia and the deputy head of the Libyan People's Bureau arrived yesterday. Ministers from other countries are expected to arrive tomorrow. The Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee member and foreign minister, Comrade Goshu Wolde, welcomed the ministers at Debre Zeit Airport.

WPE Congratulates Soviet Party Congress

EA242016 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] The WPE Central Committee has congratulated the CPSU Central Committee on the historic occasion of the 27th CPSU Congress, which opens tomorrow, and wished it success. This is stated in a warm and comradely message to other participants in the 27th CPSU congress, to the Soviet communists, and the working people of the country.

In its message, the Central Committee pointed out that the program to be adopted by the congress will not only lead the Soviet Union to the building of communism through the fulfillment of a developed socialist process but will also make a great contribution to the international community in various areas. Therefore it is eagerly awaited by the world's progressive and peace-loving forces. In addition, the message expressed the WPE's admiration, respect and solidarity for the CPSU's role in strengthening the international socialist system, bringing about prosperity and equality of the working people and securing peace in the world.

Eritrean Official on Ties With U.S., Other Issues

GF231455 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 23 Feb 86 p 9

[Interview with Osman Saleh Sabbe, chairman of the executive committee of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces by unidentified *AL-ITTIHAD* correspondent — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [*AL-ITTIHAD*] What is the U.S. stand toward the Eritrean revolution?

[Sabbe] The West in general is sympathizing with Ethiopia from a purely religious view. The Americans say that they do not want to be the ones to separate Eritrea from Ethiopia. They are afraid that will lead to the Balkanization of Africa.

[*AL-ITTIHAD*] It is clear from the recent stands of President Reagan that there is a plot against the region. Do you believe the Horn of Africa region is on the verge of an explosion?

[Sabbe] I think that President Reagan is using Ethiopia as a maneuvering card to prepare for his meeting with Gorbachev in Geneva. To date, the United States has not extended financial or political support to the Ethiopian opposition or the Eritrean revolution, although they extended some humantarian aid to the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front and Taygri.

[*AL-ITTIHAD*] Have you tried to contact the United States directly or indirectly?

[Sabbe] This year we have tried to take the pulse of the Americans, but we found that they have reservations toward our cause. However, they criticize the Ethiopian regime and affirm that the support they give to the Ethiopian regime is not for military purposes. At the same time, they still provide it with the means for its survival, including economic and international aid.

[*AL-ITTIHAD*] Arab newspapers have greatly circulated the news of the airlift of the Falasha Jews to Israel through Sudan during Numayri's rule, but the Ethiopian role in this regard has was not exposed by these newspapers. What information do you have on this issue?

[Sabbe] The immigration of the Jews did not begin in the 80's, but during the reign of Emperor Haile Selassie directly and with limited numbers through Sudan. The representatives of international Zionism in Ethiopia supervised the transportation of these Jews to Sudan with the knowledge of the Ethiopian Government. In return, Ethiopia received military aid from Israel. In a lecture he delivered in Zurich in 1978, Abba Eban said: In return for allowing Israel to manage the schools of the Falasha Jews in Ethiopia, and allowing them to leave for Israel if they wish, we have extended military and political support to Ethiopia by informing the Western countries of the importance of helping Ethiopia and not opposing Somalia and Eritreans. After that, the meetings and the visits were intensified to the degree that El-Al Company organized direct flights for the Jewish tourists to Addis Ababa during 1982-83. Ethiopia is trying to hide these facts to gain the trust of some Arab countries; it is known to the Palestinian brothers that Israel provided Ethiopia with weapons which it captured during the invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Goods Exchange Protocol Signed With GDR 24 Feb

EA242216 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Revoluiontary Ethiopia and the GDR have signed a trade protocol on exchange of goods during 1986. The agreement was reached at the end of a 6-day meeting between the two sides at the Foreign Trade Ministry conference hall. The implementation of the 1985 trade protocol was assessed and ways of further strengthening trade cooperation were discussed at the meeting.

The agreement was signed for Ethiopia by Comrade Ketsela Mulat, deputy foreign trade minister, and by Dr Wolfgang Stamm, Deputy minister for construction of general machinery,

agricultural machinery and vehicles, for the GDR.

In his speech, Comrade Ketsela said that cooperation between the two countries in various sectors has grown from strength to strength. He noted that rewarding and satisfactory activity had been carried out in 1985 and added that this activity would be further strengthened. For his part, Dr Wolfgang Stamm, pointed out that trade cooperation between the two countries is based on firm foundations in line with the agreement between the Workers Party Of Ethiopia and the GDR's Socialist Unity Party. He gave an assurance that his country would spare no effort to implement fully the 1986 trade protocol.

UGANDA

Former Obote Minister Charged With Murder

AB241630 Paris AFP in English 1325 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Kampala, Feb 24 (AFP) — Uganda's minister for culture and community development under ousted President Milton Obote, James Rwanyarare, was charged with murder when he appeared today in a Kampala magistrate's court.

Mr. Rwanyarare, who was picked up by government security men at a soccer match in Kampala on Saturday [22 Feb], was remanded in custody for two weeks.

The government prosecutor told the court that Mr. Rwanyarare, 47, along with two others still at large, murdered a Mr. Newanga in the southwestern district of Mbarara on August 28 in 1983. No other details were released.

Also charged with murder in the same court on Monday were two soldiers accused of killing a Uganda Airlines official, Enoch Kabunduh, on December 3 last year.

Both served under the Military Council government which followed the Obote regime. Lieutenant George Odoch was stationed at Entebbe Airport and Private Alfred Okidi was with the 6th Battalion in Entebbe.

The new government of President Yoweri Museveni has vowed to try and punish those responsible for the widespread killings and human rights violations under previous regimes.

Thousands of civilians were killed by government security forces during the five-year insurgency led by Mr Museveni.

CAMEROON

Delegation Leaves for OAU Ministerial Council

AB241105 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The 43d OAU ministerial council opens tomorrow in Addis Ababa. The Cameroonian delegation which is led by Mr Mahamat Paba Sale, minister delegate to the Foreign Affairs Ministry, left Yaounde yesterday.

CHAD

Envoy to U.S. Says Libya To Launch Aggression

AB250907 Paris AFP in French 0753 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, 25 Feb (AFP) — A new Libyan aggression is imminent in northern Chad, Mahamat Ali Adoum, the Chadian ambassador to Washington disclosed on Monday. "Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is preparing a new offensive after the defeat of his troops between 10 and 15 February," Mr Adoum said during an interview with AFP. He added: "We witnessed intense activity in the Chadian region occupied by Libya, and we believe that the Libyan troops will imminently launch an attack."

The Chadian ambassador also said that his country "has its own means of information" and that Chadians were "well-informed." He specified that more troops and equipment were pouring into the four bases the Libyans possess in northern Chad, and also said that his government knew where the material and fuel were stocked. One of these bases, Ouadi Doum, located in the northwest part of Faya Largeau, was bombed on 16 February by French Jaguar fighter bombers.

Mr Adoum, on the other hand, reckoned that it was very difficult to spot the exact venue of the next Libyan attack. He said that the Chadian Government keeps in touch with the United States and France. He also added that the Chadian authorities are "very much satisfied with the rapidity with which our French friends responded to our call," during the battles which took place this month.

French Paratrooper Company Arrives in Bangui

AB241840 Paris AFP in French 1632 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, 24 Feb (AFP) — The French military disposition in Chad has been reinforced over the past few days with the arrival in Bangui (CAR) of a company of paratroopers of the 3d PRIMA (Navy Infantry Paratroopers Regiment), it was learned from a French military source in Ndjamena.

The arrival of the paratroopers brings to about 650 the number of French troops present in Chad within the framework of the operation "Epervier." This operation, it is recalled, essentially relies on the Air Force. However, the French military officials are preparing for any possibility, and particularly for receiving some land forces as soon as possible, if it is necessary. One thousand and five hundred French troops, it is recalled, are now stationed in the CAR. Also, a support unit has been set up at Dubut Camp to prepare for the possible reception of French troops.

According to Chadian military sources, the situation has not significantly changed over the past few days on the fronts. For the moment, the situation is calm all over the Chadian territory. However, the military experts in Ndjamena cannot assert whether it is only a temporary lull or the interruption of the fighting that took place on the 16th parallel will last longer.

Envoy to Zaire Says 1,055 Rebels Killed, 961 Captured

AB242210 Dakar PANA in French 1539 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 24 Feb (AZAP/PANA) — The partial casualty count in the recent clashes between the Chadian Government forces and the rebel forces of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] led by Goukouni Oueddei reveals a total of 1,055 killed and 961 captured from the rebel ranks, Chadian ambassador to Zaire Maitine Djoumbe disclosed in Kinshasa yesterday.

In a reference to the situation in his country, Mr Maitine believed that it is calm but pointed out that the present lull could allow Libya, which is arming GUNT, to bring its forces together in order to renew its offensive, because Al-Qadhdhafi's ambition is to conquer all of Chad and eventually the whole subregion of Central Africa. The Libyan aggression is a challenge to the OAU, the Chadian ambassador added, stating that his country calls on all African heads of state to break their silence, which only encourages the Libyan head of state in his policy of dividing Africa.

In a reference to the wave of defections of members of the opposition, Mr Maitine held the view that all Chadians are convinced that their only enemy is Libya.

Meanwhile, he pointed out that the idea of a meeting between Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Habre as suggested by some African heads of state is a good one, saying that President Habre is prepared to meet the Libyan head of state anytime and anywhere.

President Receives Senegalese Foreign Minister

AB231105 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Excerpts] The head of state, El-Hadj Hissein Habre, is now receiving Ibrahima Fall, the envoy of President Abdou Diouf, President of Senegal and current OAU chairman. The Senegalese envoy, who is also minister of foreign affairs of his country, arrived in Ndjamena this afternoon, and was welcomed by Soumaila Mahamat, minister delegate at the Presidency of the Republic in charge of information, acting for the minister of foreign affairs. At the Ndjamena international airport where he answered questions by newsmen, Ibrahima Fall told our reporter, Malaou Yahmat, that he brought a message from President Diouf to President Hissein. Listen to Ibrahima Fall:

[Begin recording] **[Fall]** My visit to Ndjamena falls within the two-fold framework of bilateral and multilateral relations exisitng between Senegal and Chad. Concerning their bilateral relations, the two countries maintain long-standing cooperation which has always been strengthened despite events relating to the development of the situation in Chad. Concerning bilateral relations, our cooperation comprises solidarity within the framework of Sahelian and African problems. Therefore, my visit will, on behalf of the Senegalese head of state and current OAU chairman, to help strengthen this Sahelian and African solidarity.

Concerning African solidarity, it is marked by the ardent desire of the OAU to contribute to solving the Chadian crisis. President Abdou Diouf, current OAU chairman, is continuing consultations with President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the People's Republic of Congo, and the actions they have jointly initiated since President Diouf became OAU chairman were made known to the president of the Republic, his excellency President Hissein Habre. Therefore, one of the aspects of this mission is to come here on behalf of President Diouf — which also means on behalf of brother President Sassou-Nguesso — in order to report to President Hissein Habre about the latest developments in these joint actions.

[Yahmat] Mr Minister, President Abdou Diouf recently made a very important statement on the network of African Number 1 on the situation caused by Libya in Chad. Mr Minister, does this statement made by the OAU chairman mean one step further in the OAU's commitment to take a concrete stand in the face of the Chadian-Libyan problem?

[Fall] I believe that the OAU has no other choice than to take concrete action to enable Chad to recover its unity, independence, the entirety of its territory, and achieve national reconciliation among all its sons.

[Yahmat] Do you acknowledge that Chad is being attacked by Libya?

[Fall] I think this is not a new problem in as much as the Chadian issue is a two-fold issue — internal and international — and the OAU has been trying, particularly since President Diouf became chairmanship, to make both internal and external efforts in order to attain the objectives I have just mentioned. I can inform you that some days ago, the Congolese foreign minister and the Senegalese foreign minister, that is, me, were bearers of a message from Presidents Diouf and Sassou-Nguesso to the leader of the Libyan revolution, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. [end recording]

BURKINA FASO

Lingani Arrival in Moscow for CPSU Congress Reported

AB242145 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Comrade Jean-Baptiste Boukari Lingani, the comrade commander in chief of the High Command of the national armed forces and minister of popular defense, arrived in Moscow Sunday [23 Feb]. Upon arrival, the Burkinabe delegation was welcomed by a high-ranking Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Dumachev, minister and member of the CPSU State Committee. While in the Soviet capital, Comrade Minister Lingani will represent the comrade chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and the president of Burkina Faso [Captain Thomas Sankara] at the 27th CPSU Congress. In addition to attending the 27th CPSU Congress, the Burkinabe delegation will hold working sessions with Soviet officials. These sessions will be followed by visits to socioeconomic development projects as well as to places of interest. Thus from 26 to 27 February 1986, the comrade minister of popular defense will pay a visit to the state of Ukraine.

Congolese Leader Concludes Visit; Communique Issued

AB222043 Ouagagoudou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 22 Feb 86

["Joint Communique" issued at the end of Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso's visit to Burkina Faso from 20 to 22 February, read by Bassile Guissou, Burkinabe minister of external relations and cooperation — live or recorded]

[Text] Upon the invitation of Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], President of Burkina Faso and head of the revolutionary government of Burkina Faso, Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party [PCT], president of the People's Republic of Congo and head of government, undertook a friendly and working visit to Burkina Faso from 20 to 22 February 1986.

In view of the deep brotherly and friendly ties existing between the Burkinabe and Congolese peoples, their attachment to the anti-imperialist struggle and to the same ideals of peace, justice and democracy, the Congolese head of state and his delegation received a particularly warm and enthusiastic welcome from the Burkinabe people mobilized within the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR].

During his visit, the Congolese head of state went to Bobo Dioulasso where he received a popular welcome, met officials, and visited important socioeconomic organs. Comrade Thomas Sankara and his distinguished guest held private meetings in a brotherly and cordial atmosphere, a characteristic of relations between the two countries. During their talks, the two heads of state examined and exchanged views on bilateral cooperation and major international issues.

Those who participated in the talks on the Burkinabe side were: Comrade Captain Blaise Compaore, minister delegate to the Presidency in charge of justice; Captain Pierre Ouedraogo, national CDR secretary general; Major Boukary Jean-Baptiste Lingani, batallion commander and minister of popular defense; Bassile Laetare Guissou, minister of external relations and cooperation; Beatrice Damiba, minister of environment and tourism.

Members of the Congolese delegation were: Antoine Ndinga-Oba, member of the PCT Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs; Jean-Francois Obembe, member of the PCT; Ossebi Douniam, minister of forest economy.

On bilateral issues, the two presidents expressed satisfaction with the gains of their two revolutions. In this framework President Thomas Sankara gave a brief report on the increasingly strong mobilization of the Burkinabe people which has led to important socioeconomic achievements in the field of agriculture, water control, housing, and environmental protection.

In reply, the president of the People's Republic of Congo congratulated the valiant militants of Burkina Faso for their hard and resolute struggle against underdevelopemnt and its annihilating consequences which are poverty, illiteracy, and malnutrition.

The strengthening of relations between the two countries was closely examined. The two presidents expressed satisfaction with the positive development, and qualities of these relations. They agreed to do all in their power to strengthen them even further and bring them to a level of development that is in conformity with the aspirations of their peoples. In this context, the two heads of state noted the size and importance of the cooperation agreement between the Government of Burkina Faso and the Government of the People's Republic of Congo, and expressed satisfaction with the regular meetings of the joint cooperation commission existing between their two countries.

In the international sphere, the two presidents expressed satisfaction with the similarity of their views on the problems they discussed and reasserted their mutual desire to strive for long-lasting peace in Africa and in the world. In this regard, they expressed the unflinching support of their two states for the UN Charter, the OAU Charter, and the fundamental principles of nonalignment.

On the situation in Africa, they noted with satisfaction that in spite of the obstacles created by imperialism, colonialism, and neocolonialism, the African people had scored great victories in the achievement and completion of their political and economic independence. Examining the situation in southern Africa, the two heads of state condemned the imperialist maneuvers aimed at perpetrating the hegemony of the colonialist and racist Pretoria regime in southern Africa by attempting to maintain the inhuman apartheid regime, by delaying the independence of Namibia and continually pressuring countries in the region.

In this regard, the two presidents reiterated their firm support for the South African people under the leadership of the ANC to make the year 1986, the year of the final attack on apartheid, and for the proclamation of a free and democratic state in South

Africa. They forcefully renewed their unflinching support, and active solidarity with the brotherly Namibian people in their freedom fight under the leadership of SWAPO. They launched an urgent appeal to the international community to ensure that the resolutions of the UN and the OAU on South Africa and Namibia are implemented as soon as possible. They called in particular for the immediate implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibia's independence and rejected the artificial and fallacious link between this independence and the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. They condemned the huge aid given by certain countries to Jonas Savimbi, the recognized ally of the racist Pretoria regime, with a view to sowing the seeds of war and desolation in order to counter the national reconstruction efforts being made in Angola, an independent African country that is a member of the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations, and the Nonaligned Movement. Finally, they expressed their solidarity with the Frontline States and decided to support them in their struggle against the attacks by the Pretoria regime and launched an urgent appeal to all African people to give material and moral help to these countries.

On the Chadian issue, the two presidents expressed their deep preoccupation with the increase in fighting in that country, and the risk of an international conflict. They strongly condemned foreign intervention in that country and called for the respect of Chadian sovereignty and territorial integrity. They launched an appeal to all Chadian factions to urgently promote national reconciliation under the guidance of the Organization of African Unity. The comrade president of Burkina Faso congratulated Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso for his untiring efforts to promote peace in Chad.

On Western Sahara, they reasserted their support for the OAU resolutions, and maintained their belief that only direct negotiation between Morocco and the Polisario Front, in accordance with Resolution 104 AHG of the 19th OAU summit, and UN Resolution 39, 40 and A40/906 on the recognition of the inalienable rights of the Saharan people can solve the problem.

On the situation in the Middle East, the two heads of state reiterated their unflinching and constant support for the Palestinian people under the clearsighted leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization for the creation of an independent and free Palestinian state, in accordance with the pertinent UN resolutions. They condemned all kinds of plots aimed at destroying the Palestinian cause.

They pointed out and energetically condemned the increasing cooperation and odious alliance between Israel, and the racist regime of South Africa, especially in the military and nuclear fields which endanger peace and stability in Africa and in the whole world.

On the Iran-Iraq conflict, they launched an urgent appeal for an end to the war so that the two brother countries may settle their problems around the negotiating table.

Analyzing the international political situation, the two heads of state reasserted their belief in the need for the people of the world to join ranks in the struggle against imperialism to create a world of peace and freedom according to their aspirations. They also expressed their personal belief that the preservation of peace and security in the world undoubtedly depends on the creation of a new world economic order that will end the domination of industrialized nations and the export products they impose on developing countries. In this regard, they emphasized the importance of strengthening inter-African economic relations, and the complementarity of the economies of African states.

The two leaders reasserted their revolutionary determination to practice militant and consistent internationalism based on the relentless struggle against reactionaryism and imperialism, to ensure the happiness and freedom of the people. The two Presidents expressed satisfaction with the atmosphere of frankness and revolutionary brotherliness which characterized their exchange of views, and hailed the positive results they achieve in the political, economic, cultural, and information spheres. They stressed the need to continue such discussions in order to consolidate the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

At the end of his visit to Burkina Faso, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso expressed hearty thanks on his own behalf, and on behalf of his delegation to the Burkinabe people, the National Council of the Revolution, and the revolutionary government for the warm and authentically African welcome they received.

Signed in Ouagadougou on 22 February 1986

GHANA

Kojo Tsikata Receives Visiting Bulgarian Official

AB242025 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] The leader of a visiting 2-man Bulgarian delegation, Mr Popov, today delivered a special message from his government to a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] responsible for foreign affairs, Captain Kojo Tsikata, at the Castle, Osu. The contents of the message were not disclosed. The two men also held a meeting behind closed doors. Speaking to newsmen later, Mr Popov said their discussions centered on bilateral relations. They also discussed the forthcoming meeting of the Ghana-Bulgaria joint commission for economic cooperation.

Mr Popov, who is deputy foreign minister, said both sides agreed their relations have been friendly and expressed the desire to further develop that cooperation.

LIBERIA

Court Martial Set for More Than 150 Coupists

AB241417 Paris AFP in English 1407 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Monrovia, Feb 24 (AFP) — More than 150 military and paramilitary personnel will be tried by a general court martial here shortly for their alleged involvement in last November's coup attempt against President Samuel Doe, a top military official said here Monday.

Army Colonel Joseph B. Shape, chairman of the court martial board set up following the dissolution of the special military tribunal, said the body was presently conducting a pre-trial to establish the level of involvement of each of the accused in the coup attempt.

Col. Sharpe said those cleared in the pre-trial would be set free, while the rest would be formally tried by the board.

He said the Ministry of Justice had already sent a number of senior para-military personnel to the board for trial who were found to be "seriously involved" in the abortive coup.

Col. Sharpe did not say when the formal trial would begin.

Ultimatum Given To LAP Members To Resign Seats

AB241020 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0655 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] The Liberian Action Party [LAP] has issued an ultimatum to all those who accepted senatorial and legislative seats to resign by 1 March. Effective 1 March, the party said, anyone falling in this category who has not resigned his position from the party, shall be deemed automatically expelled from the party. This brings to two the number of political parties that have given deadline to their legislators to decide either to stay with them or stick to their posts.

The Unity Party took the lead when it sounded out a warning to its legislators recently at an executive meeting. Meanwhile, the Liberian Action Party has (?adopted) three formulas if reconciliation must be viewed as forgetting the past and looking to the future with a new meaning. It called for the release of all prisoners detained following the November abortive invasion, serious and honest discussions among political leaders of the country and true and fair general elections with international observers.

Press Union Said To Defy Ban, Resumes Operation

AB242140 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] After nearly 3 and 1/2 months of inactiveness as a result of the ban imposed by government, Press Union of Liberia, PUL, has decided to resume its activities. The *DAILY STAR* newspaper, quoting a letter dated 14 February to Minister of Information Carlton Karpeh and signed by members of the union's executive committee, said now that a new constitution has come into force, a constitution which automatically restores the union's rights to carry out its normal activities, the Press Union was resuming its activities forthwith. The letter then expresed the hope that the Ministry of Information and all other relevant government authorities and agencies will cooperate with the union in this regard.

It can be recalled that on 18 November 1985, the government, without explanation, banned five organizations including the Press Union of Liberia, the National Union of Liberian Teachers [NULT], the Liberian National Student's union, the Business Caucus, and the provisional leadership council of the University of Liberia. The ban prohibited them from holding any meeting and gathering.

Last week, the NULT spoke out strongly against the ban imposed on its activities. The president of NULT, [name indistinct], described the imposition as unjust, unfair, and a violation of the International Labor Organization (?law) protecting citizens right's to organize and have collective bargaining. UNLT President Joe said if the ban is not lifted by 8 March, a mass meeting will be called on decide on a course of action.

Meanwhile, the Press Union is expected to hold its first meeting this Saturday at the YMCA to organize elections, and discuss other relevant issues.

MALI

Communique Issued on Congolese Ruler's Visit

AB242250 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 24 Feb 86

["Joint Communique" issued on 24 February in Bamako at the end of the visit by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso from 22 to 24 February; read by Congolese Foreign Minister Antoine Ndinga-Oba — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Mali-Congo Joint Communique:

Upon the invitation of his excellency General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM], president of the Republic of Mali, his excellency Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, and president of the People's Republic of Congo, paid a friendly and working visit to the Republic of Mali from 22 to 25 February 1986.

During its stay, the presidential delegation visited the region of Segou, as well as socioeconomic projects, especially the Marsala Dam. The two heads of state held fruitful talks in an atmosphere of [word indistinct] realism, and militant brotherliness.

The two heads of state exchanged views on issues connected with relations between the two countries, and on African and international problems. On bilateral relations, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction with the implementation of the cooperation agreement existing between the Congolese Labor Party and the UDPM. In this framework, the two heads underlined the need to draw up a legal instrument on the improvement of conditions of residence of nationals of both countries in each other's country. The two heads of state also defined their intention to lay the foundation for effective cooperation in order to promote trade between the two countries on one hand, and to identify all the areas in which this cooperation could be efficient on the other. In this regard, the two heads of state decided to support all the efforts being made at all levels, espacially within the Congo-Mali Joint Cooperation Commission in order to make it an efficient instrument in the service of the hardworking masses.

On the situation in the subregion, the two heads of state laid special emphasis on the importance that needs to be granted to the maintenance of peace and the true and long-lasting promotion of social relations between all countries concerned. In this regard, the two heads of state reiterated their unflinching support of the ideas contained within the UN and OAU Charters and which advocate peaceful solution through dialogue of all differences between states. In this context, the Congolese presidential delegation expressed satisfaction with the efforts made by the Nonagression and Defense Aid Agreement member countries and certain African countries to restore peace and [word indistinct] between the brotherly and neighborly countries of Mali and Burkina Faso. The Congolese head of state exhorted the two countries on the basis of the principles on noninterference in the internal affairs of states and the intangibility of borders inherited at independence to gradually engage in the procedure that will enable a better assertion of their joint struggle against drought and desert encroachment in order to constantly improve the standard of living of their people who are aspiring for peace, progress, and happiness.

Examining the situation on the African Continent, the two heads of state reasserted their firm support for the determined struggle against colonial oppression, apartheid, and racism by the Namibian and South African peoples. The two heads of state renewed their unconditional support for the liberation war of the Namibian people, for their independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their unique, legitimate, and authentic representative, and in this regard they insisted on the need for the immediate and total implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435. The two heads of state also renewed their support for various movements in South Africa that are resolutely opposed to the odious apartheid regime.

The two heads of state reiterated their active solidarity with the Frontline States which are victims of permanent attacks and maneuvers to destabilize them by the racist Pretoria regime. The two heads of state (?condemned the actions of armed groups against the People's Republic of Angola, and the massive and open support they receive. In this regard, the two heads of state reasserted their firm support for the struggle of the People's Republic of Angola to preserve its national unity, indpendence, and territorial integrity.

The two heads of state expressed their preoccupation with the aggravation of tension and its dangerous consequences on one hand for the freedom of the people of the region, and on international peace and security on the other. In this regard, the two heads of state firmly condemned the recent Zionist attack on the Tunisian republic, and on the PLO headquarters at Tunis, and considered this criminal and unjustifiable attack as a flagrant violation of the basic principles of international law, and the UN Charter. The two heads of state expressed their unflinching support for the Palestine people who, under the leadership of the PLO, their unique and legitimate representative, are conducting a herioc struggle to regain their national rights, in particular their right to have an independent state in Palestine [words indistinct]. The two heads of state underlined the urgency of the need to seek just and long-lasting solutions to Middle East problem, and called on all countries to strive towards this.

On the Iran-Iraq conflict, the two heads of state launched an urgent appeal to the two countries to negotiate in order to end the fratricidal war between them.

On Africa's difficult economic situation, the two heads of state expressed their deep preoccupation with the constant deterioration of the economies of Third World countries in general, and African countries in particular which are hard-hit by the cumulative effects of world economic recession, drought, desert encroachment, and the inadequate system of economic relations between states on a planetary level. In this regard, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction with the decision to convene an extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly on the examination of the economic situation of Africa, and they promised to make efforts to ensure the success of that session. The two heads of state also reiterated their support for an international conference on the fall in Africa's [words indistinct] harmonious economic development on the African Continent, but also and espcially for a means of purifying the internationaleconomic and financial situation. In this context, the two heads of state expressed their profound conviction that the creation of mutually advantageous cooperation between industrialized countries, and the Third World countries for the true progress of all nations inevitably depends on the creation of a new world economic order that will be more just and fair.

On increasing tension in the world, the two heads of state reasserted their unflinching support for the Movement of Nonaligned Countries which constitutes a privileged instrument enabling peace- and justice-loving countries to reassert their national independence, and to competently contribute charitably to the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as the creation of a newer, fairer, and more solidaristic world economic order.

The two heads of state expressed satisfaction with the outcome of this official visit which expresses the firm desire of the two countries to develop and consilidate all levels of ties existing between the People's Republic of Congo and the Republic of Mali. His excellency Col Denis Sassou-Nguesso expressed deep gratitude and thanks to his excellency Gen Moussa Traore for the friendly and brotherly welcome, and African hospitality given him and his delegation. His excellency Col Denis Sassou-Nguesso invited his brother and friend, his excellency Gen Moussa Traore, to pay an official visit to the People's of Congo. The invitation was accepted with pleasure, and the date of the visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Signed in Bamako on 24 February 1986 by his excellency Col Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, and president of the People's Republic of Congo, and by his excellency Gen Moussa Traore, secretary general of the UDPM and president of the Republic of Mali

NIGERIA

Thirteen Army Officers Sentenced To Death for Plot

AB251438 Paris AFP in French 1430 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Lagos, 25 Feb (AFP) — Thirteen Nigerian Army officers including a former minister, who were implicated in a plot to overthrow President Ibrahim Babangida's regime at the end of last year, were sentenced to death on Tuesday by a Nigerian military tribunal, it was learned in Lagos.

SENEGAL

Diouf Comments on 'Reconciliation' With Chad

LD241739 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] One may note the visit to Chad by the Senegalese Minister of Foreign Affairs Ibrahima Fall, who reported on a visit paid recently to Tripoli in the company of his Congolese counterpart at the request of presidents Diouf and Sassou-Nguesso. They had the opportunity, before the raids of last week, to meet colonel Al-Qadhdhafi and former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei. Apparently, Goukouni had accepted the principle of a meeting with Hissein Habre to seek a political solution. At any rate, this is what was stated in Dakaar this morning by Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, who is in fact receiving his Congolese colleague on an official visit from today. Listen to President Diouf:

[Begin Diouf recording] Quite obviously, we are too weak to halt the use of arms if certain parties decide to make arms talk and we are among the numerous people who believe, and France moreover belongs to these, who believe that the Chadian problem cannot be settled through arms, that this problem can only be settled by political negotiation. There are regrettable events there.

Our two ministers saw Col al-Qadhdhafi and afterward saw Mr Goukouni Oueddei and his assistant. Mr Goukouni Oueddei accepted the principle of a meeting to discuss reconciliation and peace with the legitimate president of Chad, President Hissein Habre. That is why we were very surprised to see the military operations resume. I can give you the assurance that in spite of this resumption of military operations we shall continue our efforts — firstly for the fighting to end and so that, under the aegis of President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, to whom I shall give my support on behalf of the OAU we can succeed in getting consultations, a dialogue, and negotiations between presidents Hissein, Habre, Mr Goukouni Oueddei, and the other opposition Chadian leaders who are currently with Mr Goukouni Oueddei, in such a way that we can reach a general reconciliation of all the sons of Chad, so that the wounded country may heal its wounds, achieve unity and cohesion, and finally turn to its recovery and development. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Dos Santos, Delegation Leave for CPSU Congress

MB241237 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, left for Moscow yesterday where he will attend the proceedings of the 27th CPSU Congress which will begin tomorrow.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos heads an Angolan party delegation which will be representing our country at that important congress. The delegation includes Pascoal Luvualu, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau and secretary general of the National Union of Workers of Angola; Carlos Fernandes, secretary of state for cooperation; Lieutenant Colonel Roberto Leal Monteiro, deputy chief of the FAPLA general staff; and senior officials in the presidency of the Republic.

64 UNITA 'Counterrevolutionary Elements' Killed

MB211824 Luanda ANGOP in English 1752 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Text] Luanda, Feb 21, (ANGOP) — Sixty four (64) counterrevolutionary elements of the South African-sponsored UNITA organisation have been killed, among them, one major, two sergeants and one taken prisoner by the Angolan Armed Forces during recent mopping up operations in three Angolan provinces, an official military soqrce told ANGOP.

These clashes took place in the south-western Province of Benguela and central Provinces of Bie and Huambo.

The source added that during these military operations, the Angola Armed Forces seized a large quantity of war materiel. In addition, forty-one (41) abducted civilians were freed.

UNITA Claims MIG Shot Down, 100 Troops Killed

MB242012 Umtata Capital Radio in English 2000 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] UNITA rebels in Angola are claiming to have shot down another MIG-21 jet fighter. It is the second aircraft they have already beat down in less than a week.

The statement released in Lisbon also claims they have killed 100 government soldiers, including 7 Cubans, over the past week.

Earlier this month, rebel UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi returned from the United States with promises of about 30 million rand worth of military aid from the Reagan administration. The first shipment is reported to be on its way to the rebels and is due to arrive via Zaire.

BOTSWANA

Commonwealth Group Arrives, Meets Masire

MB241638 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] The Commonwealth group of eminent persons arrived in Gaborone this afternoon for talks with government officials on ways to find a peaceful solution to the problems in South Africa. The group comprises former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser; former British Chancellor of the Exchequer Lord Barber; former Tanzanian foreign minister John Malecela; Chairperson of the World Council of Churches Dame Nita Barrow; and the primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Edward Scott. The talks are aimed at finding ways of bringing an atmosphere conducive to a dialogue between Pretoria and various groups struggling for equal rights in South Africa.

The team attended a luncheon this afternoon hosted by the vice president and minister of finance and development planning, Mr Peter Mmusi, before meeting the president, Dr Quett Masire. The group's visit to Botswana is part of its tour of members of the Frontline States to express their opinion as countries which have been trying to find solutions to the problems in South Africa. Three members of the group have already been to South Africa. The team will attend a dinner this evening hosted by President Masire.

LESOTHO

Commonwealth Group Departs After Meeting King

MB241108 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1102 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Maseru, Feb 24, SAPA — Five members of the Commonwealth group appointed to investigate apartheid in South Africa left Maseru for Gaborone today on the first leg of visits to various front line states. They arrived in Maseru yesterday.

A spokesman for the group declined to give details of the visit to Lesotho but said they were invited by King Moshoeshoe II.

The five included the former Australian prime minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, and Dame Nita Barrow from Barbados, president of the World Council of Churches.

At a government reception last night the five met the chairman of the Military Council of Lesotho, Major General Metsing Lekhanya, members of the Council of Ministers and leading personalities in business, education, and religious fields.

The group met King Moshoeshoe at the royal palace this morning. Yesterday they were flown across the Maluti mountains in a military helicopter of the Lesotho Para-Military Force. After Gaborone, the group will visit Harare and Lusaka.

'Unique' Political System Predicted for Country

MB230617 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 22 Feb 86 p 10

[By Gerald l'Ange, *STAR*'s Africa service]

[Text] A unique political system blending military dictatorship with private enterprise and socialism is likely to be developed in Lesotho in the wake of the coup last month.

The emergence of such a system is predicted by political experts in Maseru — provided the military leaders can retain the power they seized from former Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan on January 19.

Major-General Metsing Lekhanya, chairman of the Supreme Military Council, and his fellow officers face a number of possible challenges to their dominance. Some could come from within the military itself. One of the sparks that set off the coup was a split in the country's army, the Lesotho Paramilitary Force (LPF), commanded by General Lekhanya, whose authority was being challenged by a relatively radical faction.

The leaders of the faction were arrested or killed in the shoot-out at the barracks that coincided with the coup and General Lekhanya appears to have re-established his command of the LPF. However, he must bear in mind that most members of the LPF were members of Chief Jonathan's Basotho National Party. Jonathan is reported to have packed the LPF with BNP members to ensure the loyalty of the armed forces to his unelected government.

Another cause of the coup was the threat posed to the army by the BNP Youth League, which had been armed by Chief Jonathan as a kind of palace guard to further ensure his continuance in power. The youth leaguers have reportedly been disarmed by the army following the coup, but their loyalties presumably remain unchanged and the Military Council may have to keep a close watch on them.

Knowledgeable observers expect the council to put an indefinite ban on party political activity to halt the political feuding that has torn the country since independence. Reconciliation will be their aim.

Under the first order issued by the Military Council, the country will be administered by King Moshoeshoe II, acting on the advice of the council, and a group of ministers appointed by the king. The politicians would appear to have been sidelined and this may not sit well with them or the politically conscious Basotho in general, who were supporting about half a dozen different parties at the time of the coup in spite of Chief Jonathan's autocratic hold on power.

Some Basotho believe, however, that their countrymen will welcome a break from the political warring and support the Military Council's attempts at reconciliation.

The problems faced by the government wuld then be largely economic — and also South African. The Military Council has apparently accepted that it has no counter to Pretoria's ability to blockade Lesotho into submission and will make it difficult if not impossible for the ANC to use Lesotho as a base for subversion.

Because of its lack of natural resources Lesotho will continue to practise what one prominent Mosotho recently referred to as "the politics of poverty". It will continue to rely heavily on foreign aid and foreign investment capital. The new government is expected to make a big effort to attract private foreign investment and also to encourage private enterprise among Basotho.

At the same time it will, some analysts believe, have to adopt some socialist practices to meet the aspirations of a population consisting largely of relatively well-educated peasants. The new government is therefore likely, in spite of the basic conservatism of the military leaders, to increase public and state participation in the economy.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chissano, ANC Leader in Moscow for CPSU Congress

MB240740 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Joaquim Chissano, member of the Frelimo Political Bureau and Central Committee secretary for foreign relations, arrived in Moscow last night. He is heading a Frelimo delegation to the 27th CPSU Congress.

According to the Radio Mozambique correspondent in Moscow, more than 20 delegations representing communist parties from all continents had arrived in the Soviet capital by Saturday.

The ANC of South Africa is also represented in Moscow by a delegation headed by Alfred Nzo, the secretary general of the ANC.

Four MNR 'Terrorists' Sentenced to Death

MB241204 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] A total of four MNR terrorists have been sentenced to death and several others have been given jail sentences of between 8 and 18 years.

The men were tried and convicted by the Revolutionary Military Tribunal in Maputo. The four who were given the death sentence are (Pedro Mondlovo), (Simao Gouveia), (Chico Cabecada), and (Agostinho Munguambe). They were found guilty of ambushing vehicles and murdering their occupants on the road between Maputo and Swaziland, the road linking Maputo to South Africa, and Mozambique's north-south highway.

Another MNR member, (Jose Farouk), was given 18 years for kidnapping, stealing food and goods from the population, and espionage.

The court sentenced (Agostinho Chuveni) and (Tomas Simango) to 15 years in jail for armed rebellion, kidnapping defenseless civilians, and stealing goods for the population.

Twelve-year jail sentences were given to (Jose Valoi), (Simao Matiuana), and (Conhane Sithole) for belonging to the terrorist organization, while (Feliciano Mapai) was given 8 years for the same offense. The court found that there were mitigating circumstances in the case of (Mapai).

Another accused, (Zangueni Chinguno), was set free after being found not guilty of collaborating with the terrorists.

Seven Civilians Killed in MNR Attack on Bus
MB241828 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] South African-backed MNR terrorists have attacked a passenger bus, killing seven civilians including a child, on the road between Maputo and the border with Swaziland. The attack occurred this morning on the road to Namaacha border town, southwest of Maputo city. Twenty civilians were injured and 16 of them were admitted at about midday at the Maputo Central Hospital in serious condition. Radio Mozambique has been broadcasting appeals for blood donations.

The attack coincided with an announcement that four MNR terrorists had been sentenced to death and seven others had been given jail sentences of between 8 and 18 years for attacking civilians and road traffic.

'Armed Bandits' Repelled in Maputo Suburbs
MB230610 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] A group of armed bandits which had infiltrated into the (Hainhane) and Liberdade suburbs on the outskirts of Maputo city was repelled yesterday morning by the Mozambican Armed Forces, FPLM. During the attack a person was seriously wounded and is now in the Central Hospital in Maputo. A vehicle which was traveling toward Liberdade was set alight by the armed bandits but the sole person inside it managed to escape.

A source from the rocket batallion station at Liberdade told AIM that the first incursion of the bandits was detected at about 2000 when they tried to ransack a consumer cooperative in the (Hainhane) suburb in Matola.

Man Detonates Landmine on Costa do Sol Beach
MB251105 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GTM 25 Feb 86

[Text] A man lost his leg when he detonated an anti-personnel mine in Costa do Sol beach, Maputo, yesterday. The man detonated the mine when he was walking his sheep on the beach.

This is the third landmine explosion in the same area in less then 1 month. On 6 Febraury, two landmines cut the lower limbs of two people.

NAMIBIA

15 SWAPO 'Insurgents' Killed Over Weekend
MB241206 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1200 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 24, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia shot dead 15 SWAPO insurgents at the weekend, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today. Quantities of arms were seized including 95 mortar bombs, 23 anti-personnel mines, 21 rifle grenades, 13 RPG-7 rockets and small arms.

In another incident, four people were injured when a military vehicle detonated a landmine on a tarred road 7km west of Mahanene in northern SWA/Namibia yesterday. The vehicle was carrying members of the defence force and their families on a day trip, the SWATF said in a statement.

A man and a woman were seriously injured in the blast and an 18-month-old baby sustained light cuts. No mention is made of the extent of the injuries to the fourth person. The statement gave no further details, but added that nine telephone poles had been sabotaged in the area the previous night.

The latest SWAPO deaths brought to 116 the number of insurgents "eliminated" to date this year, the statement said. Last year the security forces shot dead 599 SWAPO insurgents, according to official statistics.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Calls for Change in Attitudes, Unity
MB2505[illegible] Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GM[illegible] 25 Feb 86

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says all South Africans, irrespective of their color or creed, have to unite to help to put an end to violence in the country.

Addressing a political gathering in Yeoville, Johannesburg, Mr Botha said that although there was strong pressure from overseas to bring about reform, the West has not prescribed to South Africa what method of reform it should use, as this had to be done by South Africans themselves. Mr Botha said that it was easy to change laws, but not so easy to change the attitudes of people. The minister reemphasized that all communities had to have a say in the Government of South Africa.

He said that the present struggle in South Africa was between those who believed in powersharing and those who wanted to seize power. Mr Botha said that anyone who negotiated with the ANC or the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] was engineering his own doom, as this would lead to a future of violence.

Du Plessis Says Additional Funds Needed for Budget
MB241240 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1239 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Parliament, Feb 24, SAPA — An additional R1.517 billion was needed to met expenditure for the 1985/86 financial year, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said today.

This was an increase of 4.8 per cent on the amount budgeted last year, he said in introducing his additional appropriation bill. The figure would have been higher, but R300 million had been saved on votes such as staff-related expenditure.

Gross excess expenditure before savings was R1.817 billion, comprising an additional R1.163 billion to be appropriated and R654 million to service the state debt.

The main reason for the increase in funds to service the state debt was the low rand exchange rate, which accounted for more than R330 million of the excess.

Mr du Plessis said interest rates had been higher than budgeted for, while the interest burden had also been increased by the Exchequer borrowing "both earlier and more than was dictated by fiscal requirements". This had been done "in the course of applying sound monetary policy", the minister said.

Mr du Plessis said the revised estimate of expenditure for the 1985/86 year was R32.977 billion after the R300 million saved, compared with R31.46 billion budgeted last year.

It had been planned to reduce this figure by R417 million through savings on staff expenditure.

"Factors such as the lower level of the rand against other currencies, unemployment, riots, greater demand for services by government and consistently high interest rates caused the level of expenditure of R31,46 billion to be exceeded," he said.

Mr du Plessis thanked his colleagues and their departments for their support and also expressed his gratitude to the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, "for his deep understanding of our country's financial situation and of my task". "Without this support and understanding, an already complex task would have been even more problematic," he said.

"The drive to reduce government expenditure to a minimum inevitably entails sacrifices. This is particularly so in seriously recessionary times, compounded by our present political situation in which large segments of the population have high expectations." He said further details of additional expenditure would be provided during the committee stage of the bill.

Requests R288 Million for Forces
MB241242 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1241 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Parliament, Feb 24, SAPA — A total of R288 million out of the additional appropriation bills total of R1.517 billion was needed for the South African Police, the Defence Force and the Prisons Service, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said today.

Introducing the second reading of the bill at a joint sitting today, this sum consisted of R42 million for the police, R245 million for the SADF and R1 million for the Prisons Service.

"A sound economy is essential for prosperity and prosperity for a contented population... Both are largely dependent on internal order," Mr du Plessis said.

Members of Parliament would agree action was necessary to maintain peace and restore order.

"This entailed the country-wide deployment of large numbers of police and troops and it was not possible for us at the beginning of the financial year to accurately estimate the addtional cost," he said. The cost of combatting the unrest nevertheless accounted for only a small part of the extra R288 million requested.

"Of the R245 million requested by defence, R100 million represents that portion of the estimated under-expenditure, approved by Parliament in the main budget, (but) which failed to materialise.

"Another R95.5 million is needed to pay for deliveries against orders placed in previous years... Only a fraction of the remaining amount is related to the unrest," Mr du Plessis said.

Of the additional amount requested by the police, about 50 percent could be linked to the unrest, while the remainder was needed to bring the ratio of police to population nearer to accepted Western norms. After dealing with additional expenditure required by some other government departments, which represented the bulk of the appropriations requested, Mr du Plessis said the balance, which amounted to R178 million, was for other services which were spread over various votes.

Ministers of the relevant departments would provide further information on this when their votes were discussed.

Mr du Plessis also gave the assurance that, without anticipating the usual review of government finances given on budget day, adequate additional funds would be available to finance the excess expenditure on a sound basis.

Speaks of Development Board Funds
MB241709 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1708 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Parliament, Feb 24, SAPA — The poor financial position of development and community boards was being aggravated by the "high incidence" of rent and service charges defaulters, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said today.

Introducing the second reading of the additional appropriation bill, he said these boards were "experiencing shortfalls in rendering the necessary services to their communities." To meet these shortfalls, a sum of R94 million was included in the vote of the

Department of Constitutional Development and Planning as bridging finance.

Mr du Plessis said that in may cases the defaults were for reasons "unrelated to economics." "That the country as a whole would suffer if the boards were to collapse, is self-evident — hence the request to Parliament for assistance."

Mr du Plessis said it was highly unsatisfactory that users of the services of local authorities failed to meet their "reasonable and equitable obligations", and it was to be hoped that the situation would be remedied as soon as possible. He also said the customary final adjustment of the provincial subsidies this year amounted to R85 million.

Increasing cost pressure and demands for additional services called for expenditure of a further R40 million. R50 million had also been allocated to provincial administrations for the creation of employment. Savings of R72 million in staff-related expenditure reduced the gross requirement so that only R103 million was requested in the additional estimate.

Malan on Neighbors' Instability, Whites-Only Beach

MB250740 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] The South African minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, says some countries bordering on South Africa are responsible for their own destabilization for allowing superpowers to wage wars on their territory instead of allowing them to build up their economies. Replying to questions in the colored or mixed race House of Representatives, the minister said other countries again allowed terrorists to train in their territories before launching their devilish attacks in and on South Africa.

Referring to the invitation by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, to neighboring countries to join with South Africa in establishing a joint southern African security monitoring body, Gen Malan said not one of these countries have yet committed themselves to the initiative.

Turning to a recent newspaper report which had stated that troops had guarded whites-only beaches in Port Elizabeth over the weekend, the minister said the report had been very misleading. He said the troops had been assisting in the management of a marathon which had been run along the beachfront. Gen Malan said members of the citizen force had also been spectators on two other beaches in the area where two competitions were being held. He said such misrepresentations in press reports harmed the image of the defense force.

Buthelezi Returns From FRG, Holds News Conference

MB241829 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign donor organizations are to take a much closer look at the way money channeled to the SACC [South African Council of Churches] is used. This is the message from KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi just back from a visit to West Germany.

[Begin video] [Reporter Cliff Saunders] Addressing a news conference at Jan Smuts Airport, Chief Buthelezi, who spoke to several church leaders while in West Germany, said they had been stunned over what was being done with donations given to the SACC. He expected, therefore, that much more attention would be given to such donations, 90 percent of which, Chief Buthelezi claimed, were channeled through West Germany. He said he wanted to expose events in South Africa when he released the memorandum signed by Bishop Tutu, the Reverend Boesak, and Professor Gerbel making certain demands in connection with education aid offered by a soft drink company.

[Buthelezi] Donor agencies do not know the attitude of these people. I mean [word indistinct] sort of said it all for me what's going on, what I have been pointing out for quite a while that donor agency money and church money from church donor agencies, in fact, doesn't reach people who haven't got the political approval of certain people who hold key positions in the SACC, for instance. So, I mean, that document for me was like political manna from heaven because I didn't need to give my own assessments. I mean it said it all for me.

[Saunders] Referring to the transcription of discussions between State President Botha and Dr van Zyl Slabbert, in which it was suggested that Inkatha and the ANC were involved in a power struggle, Chief Buthelezi said this was not the case from his point of view.

[Buthelezi] I dispute, therefore, I mean the argument in the tapes which the state president released that, you know, that we think, I think, I am the only bull. Maybe that can apply to the ANC because they see themselves as the premier organization.

[Saunders] Chief Buthelezi referred at length to statements made and to attitudes adopted by Dr Slabbert and raised the question mark over the former Progressive Federal Party leader's future political role in the country.

[Buthelezi] To believe I can be scared of anybody, I don't think this (?registers) well in spite on his brilliance. Now I mean that I take it as a gross, you know, insult for him to say I am scared, for him to actually blurt out the propaganda of the external mission of ANC because this thing about Muzorewa was (?ordered) by the ANC. I think that members of Inkatha and others who have always warmly received Dr Slabbert are completely disenchanted and disillusioned about those remarks that he has made. [end video]

Allegedly No 'Official' Forces on 'White' Beach

MB241135 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1123 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, Feb 24, SAPA — No member of the security forces had been stationed on Kings Beach, Port Elizabeth [PE] at the weekend in an "official capacity," the eastern Cape's top policeman said today.

The divisional commissioner of police in the eastern Cape, Brigadier Ernest Schnetler, said in a statement if anyone could prove otherwise, they were "welcome to come forward."

He said there were policemen and members of the South African Defence Force from other parts of the country who were doing spells of duty in PE, and these people could be seen on the local beaches almost daily. He said these visitors came to the beaches — often in uniform — to relax in their off-duty hours.

Brig Schnetler said there had been no patrols on the beaches and it was unfortunate that there were people who had drawn their own conclusions and accepted the conclusions were correct.

But security forces had been stationed near Kings Beach at the weekend in case of an influx of blacks to the "white" beaches and a possible confrontation between different races.

Van Eck Urges Intervention

MB250509 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1426 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 24, SAPA — The administrator, Mr Gene Louw, was urged today to intervene immediately in the beach apartheid row between Port Elizabeth City Council and General Motors.

Mr Jan van Eck, Provincial Council opposition spokesman on beaches, said: "The damage being caused not only to South Africa's image abroad but to race relations in a politically volatile area such as Port Elizabeth must be limited."

Mr Van Eck said today: "Mr Louw has the power as administrator to request the Port Elizabeth City Council to stop enforcing apartheid on their beaches if he wants to. This is a test case for Mr Louw and his National Party administrators to demonstrate whether they are serious about change or not."

PFP Unrest Monitoring Group's Findings Discussed

MB241840 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1836 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 24, SAPA — The PFP MPC [member of Provincial Council] for Groote Schuur, Mr Jan Van Eck, today called for the resignation of the chief magistrate of Robertson for his extreme views on "justice" towards black people accused of public violence during the unrest.

The magistrate, Mr J. Lategan, allegedly told Mr van Eck that blacks "only understand the law of the kierie (club)" when the Progressive Federal Party's unrest monitoring committee visited the Boland town last year.

During the second reading of the part appropriation draft order, Mr van Eck told the provincial council of the "gruesome force" with which police had acted indiscriminately against young and old, male and female.

He also described as "completely false" the information released to Parliament by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, concerning the number of cases of abuse the PFP had brought to the attention of the police.

While Mr Le Grange said there were only eight such cases in the western Cape, Mr van Eck said that of the PFP's monitoring committee, he alone reported 12 cases to the police and was indirectly involved in a further seven being brought to the attention of the authorities.

Speaking on the PFP's findings, he said: "Some of the force used was so serious that a person could only describe it as the actions of skollies (thugs) in police uniforms. The police are seen as the enemy and not as protectors."

The PFP found that the most "vicious and barbarous" acts committed by police against residents were in the country towns, he said. Township residents were too scared to lay charges against police because they feared they would be "removed" by authorities, they would be chased away or they would be kept waiting before their complaints would receive attention.

Mr van Eck's speech was met with anger and jeers from NP [National Party] members, and Mr J.N. Moolman, MPC for Tyger Valley, called him "a complete disgrace to public life and the provincial council."

Referring to the Robertson magistrate, Mr van Eck said he had visited the area in November and had met Mr Lategan after enquiries at the magistrates' offices about a large group of youths who had been arrested for public violence.

Mr Lategan had told him that Robertson had "had no trouble" when its township was policed by a home guard "with kieries because black people only understand the law of the kierie and then they behave," he said.

Mr Lategan then went on to say that with "politicians", or community councillors, little was done to control blacks because they (the community councillors) "get embarrassed when people get beaten", Mr van Eck said.

"I do not believe that a person who holds such views should hold such a senior position," he said. "How on earth can any black person — someone accused of public violence — expect a fair hearing from such a magistrate? A magistrate with such views can only undermine the little bit of faith blacks still have in what they already call the white man's justice."

Referring to recent incidents in the western Cape where police had been fired upon by residents, he said that whenever a person was "brutalised" by police violence, the voices condoning counter-violence against security forces grew.

There was "no name for the kind of government" that had acted with such ferocity against forms of protest like the carols for candlelight services in December, he said.

Bophuthatswana Minister Puts Unrest on UDF, AZAPO
MB230649 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1826 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Vryburg, Feb 22, SAPA — The unrest in the Garankuwa and Mabopane areas near Pretoria is influenced by outside forces, and not by Bophuthatswana's citizens, Bophuthatswana's minister of foreign affairs, Mr T.M. Molathwa, said today.

Addressing Bophuthatswana's National Party congress at Ganyesa near Vryburg, Mr Molathwa said United Democratic Front [UDF] and Azania Peoples Organisation affiliate organisations were initiating unrest in Garankuwa and Mabopane.

"They are fighting against apartheid which does not exist in Bophuthatswana," he said.

Mr Molathwa encouraged Ganyesa residents to protect their property and government, referring to the possible influence by the UDF which has a strong following in Vryburg.

Suzman, Wessels Discuss Unrest, State of Emergency
MB211758 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Discussion with Helen Suzman, Progressive Federal Party, PFP, member of Parliament, and spokesperson on law and order, and Leon Wessels, National Party spokesman on law and order, in Cape Town studio; and John Gogotya, director of Operation Advance and Upgrade, in Johannesburg; moderated by John Bishop on the "Network" program — live]

[Text] [Bishop] As you know, Alexandra township has suffered 5 days of violence. People have died. Looting and factional fighting, often fuelled by intimidation, erupted into a hostile confrontation betwen township residents and security forces last Saturday. Now, although the cause is being disputed, official sources say the violence started after a security guard shot a black man on the premises of an Asian store. The call for the withdrawal of troops from the townships has again been voiced. So we turn to Mrs Helen Suzman and ask you, Mrs Suzman, first of all to set out as briefly as you can, and to get the ball rolling, as far as this discussion is concerned, what is your view on the security forces — that is, the SADF — and the police presence in townships at the present moment?

[Suzman] Well, I think in principle we are against the use of the army in the townships. We think it gives the impression of a civil war between government forces and the townships' inhabitants, and we believe police presence is necessary to protect people where there is arson and looting and violence of all kinds, but that should be kept to a minimum. And, in particular, we are against the police appearing at the funerals of victims of police shootings, because we believe this to be extremely provocative, and results in more violence, more deaths, and more funerals.

[Bishop] Thank you. Two points, then, Mr Wessels: the particular presence of the army and the presence of police at funerals. Would you comment?

[Wessels] I would love to. As far as the army is concerned, the army are supporting the police insofar as the police just do not have the numbers to deal with the situation. One must realize that there are a number of people whose objective it is to make these townships ungovernable, and therefore the security forces are there to protect innocent lives and property. As far as funerals are concerned, surely the police will try and keep a low profile but cannot sit idly by when lives and property are threatened.

[Bishop] Mr Gogotya, will you join the conversation there?

[Gogotya] One would like to find out exactly what led to the police presence in the townships. In the first place, there was so much violence that was being perpetrated by certain elements within the black townships, and this in turn led to the presence of the police in the townships. Now, these organizations did admit previously that they were unable to control the situation because they had blamed the violence in the townships to unspecified and perhaps unknown and unidentified tsotsi [ruffian] elements within the townships. This resulted in the coming in of the police into the townships.

[Bishop] Which organizations were blaming the...

[Gogotya, interrupting] You had organizations like the UDF [United Democratic Front], for instance, and the other black consciousness organizations like AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization] movement. And these organizations kept on blaming one... [changes thought] either they would blame the other organization for the violence, or blame certain organizations that were unamed, as being the causes of the violence in the townships.

[Bishop] Mr Gogotya, can you just stick to the initial points we were making here? The question was: What about the presence of the SADF, or soldiers in the townships?

[Gogotja] I do not understand the reasoning behind statements like this. To me it is tantamount to people blaming the medical profession for the ills and sufferings of manking. It is not the medical profession that is the cause, but one would have to look at the causes that led to the presence of the medical...

[Bishop, interrupting] Right, but Mrs Suzman made the difference, here, between the police, who have of course a right to be everywhere, to protect the public, and the army. Now, it is the presence, the physical presence, of the army [words indistinct].

[Gcgotya] Yes, I would think perhaps the presence of the army — if it is used to suppress rather genuine political interests within the blacks — that, of course, nobody would condone. But their presence there was encouraged by the violence that was generating in the townships.

[Bishop] Mrs Suzman, there is the question there of the need for the army to back up the police.

[Suzman] Yes, but I mean practically every township where there has been unrest, and where the troops have gone in, the call has been by the residents there: Army out of the townships. They feel that the army's presence in those townships is often an

exacerbating factor as far as keeping the unrest at fever pitch. There is tremendous resentment.

[Gogotya] I would interrupt you, Mrs Suzman, and say when people speak of a resident, they speak in terms of certain residents who belong to these political organizations. Not every resident in the townships...

[Suzman, interrupting] No, I am sure that is true.

[Gogotya] We are living in the townships, and the views of moderate blacks in the townships are never taken into consideration. It is always the radicals, the views of the radicals that are given prominence in the press. So when people speak of black residents saying police must move out, in fact they should categorize that and say: Black radicals do not want...

[Suzman, interrupting] Not only, surely... [change of thought] I mean, a lot of people who feel that the army's presence in itself gives this tremendous impetus to the whole idea of blacks versus everybody else, and I think really and truly that you have to take notice of the feelings of the vast majority of people in those townships.

[Gogotya] But then, Mrs Suzman, we are living in the townships, and as moderates we are at the receiving end of the violence that is perpatrated in the townships and...

[Suzman, interrupting] Well, the police should be there to protect you.

[Gogotya] And how do moderate blacks protect themselves? Where do they get protection?

[Suzman] The police. The job of the police is to protect law-abiding citizens from any violence that they may experience.

[Gogotya] But the PFP has mentioned time and time again in Parliament that there are not enough police to go around.

[Suzman] They have not mentioned that at all, I do not believe.

[Bishop] Is that a question there, Mrs Suzman? Numbers?

[Suzman] I suppose. It might be looked at. There might be situations where things get totally out of hand, and where it is necessary to call in some form of reinforcement. But I am talking by and large of having the troops stationed in the townships at times when there is unrest, but certainly not tremendous violence.

[Bishop] We want to move on. I would like to call in Mr Wessels now, to sort of finish this first part of the discussion.

[Wessels] What I would like to add is that what one needs is long-term high profile presence of security forces. In other words, they must be there to generate the feeling of security among the people who are being threatened by so-called radicals. And in that respect, surely, the police cannot deal with the situation, and the army, the SADF, is in a supportive role, and add up the numbers. So I support this high-profile presence.

[Bishop] Mr Wessels, can I put this to you? Is it not possible to have an African, black, if you like, police reserve force? I mean, this has been done in other countries. More police stations inside the townships, personally?

[Wessels] Right, I think what one has before us is the statements of the minister of law and order, that the expansion of the South African police — white as well as black — is receiving high priority, and this is something that is being dealt with.

[Bishop] Mrs Suzman?

[Suzman] Yes, well, I think that if the situation demands it, then you must increase your police force. They must be well disciplined, however, and they must use the minimum of force in putting down unrest, and fire-power as a very last resort. I am most concerned at the fact that there are so many deaths involved in all these episodes in the townships, and riot control methods, I think, must be used before any use of fire-power. And it is only in the last resort that fire-power should be used.

[Bishop] Mr Wessels, are the riot control methods good enough?

[Wessels] Surely the police operate under the principle of using the minimum force. And I think that one must ...

[Suzman, interrupting] But did it not come out at the Uitenhage inquiry, the Kannemeyer inquiry ...

[Wessels, interrupting] Well, I think, Mrs Suzman, what one must really appreciate is that the police are doing a very difficult job under the most difficult circumstances. And they are also not dealing with youngsters whose hobby is to play around with marbles. They are dealing with well-organized, determined, and motivated mobs ...

[Suzman, interrupting] No, not always, not always. I mean, you know the Kannemeyer report certainly did not bear that out.

[Wessels] Right. But surely it is also a statement of fact when I say that these people have murdered and killed innocent civilians, have burned houses, property?

[Suzman] Yes, I agree. And that has got to be stopped, obviously. But there are also very disturbing stories of police excesses in handling crowds, in going into ... [changes thought] throwing teargas into schools and into churches and disturbing mourners at funerals. I mean, we have both sides.

[Wessels] May I say that I think nobody is going to condone any illegal actions of any security force members. But what I would also like to say here is that nobody should also condone illegal or unlawful actions of any civilian aginst the police force.

[Suzman] I totally agree with that.

[Bishop] There seems to be an agreement there. Can I move on and mention the state of emergency? There have been calls, and there are still quite strident calls, for the removal of the state of emergency. Your position there, Mrs Suzman.

[Suzman] Well, we thought the state of emergency should never have been declared, and we believe that South Africa will never get back to any form of stability unless the basic cause of unrest and dissatisfation are tackled. I mean, that is the main thing. The grievances are genuine.

[Bishop] Can I cross examine you a little about that — the state of emergency would seem ... [changes thought] would not be in anyone's interests, I mean, particularly bearing in mind the image overseas at the moment, with the money being debated and so on. So surely, government is saying to itself: If we could lift the state of emergency, we would. I mean, this is a supposition I am putting to you.

[Suzman] Yes, I know. I wish I could agree with you, that the governemnt is always so reasonable. It is not, in fact. I mean, as far as we are concerned, the very fact that indemnity was given to all officials and police who commit any acts during the emergency, that in itself, I think, led to excesses which should never have taken place, and that has continued to exacerbate the situation among blacks.

[Bishop] Mr Wessels, your view?

[Wessels] I would love to join issue with Mrs Suzman on this particular statement, as far as indemnity is concerned. Surely, if any member of the security forces is ... [changes thought] he is accountable if he acts not in good faith.

[Suzman] Not in good faith. Very difficult to prove.

[Wessels] Right, I concede that, if he acts not in good faith. But the judgment of the courts is pending then. In other words, it is for the court to decide whether he acted in good faith, yes or no. So it is a completely false and unfounded statement to augue that the police are above the law and have a license ...

[Suzman, interrupting] Yes, but they have been given a very wide discretion, and it is certainly very difficult to prove whether a person did not act in good faith, particularly ...

[Wessels, interrupting] Well, I think ... [changes thought] The one thing I would like Mrs Suzman just to concede tonight is that the police are dealing with a very difficult situation, and therefore they need special powers to deal with such a situation.

[Bishop] People, can we move now to Mr Gogotya. You live in a black township, I have visted one of them in this country, and many of them are really not places where people should live. They are very bad, some of them. Now, we have tried to look for a bit of hope in the situation, I think. What about doing something about the townships? Have you got some constructive suggestions?

[Gogotya] The quality of life in the townships has definitely to be upgraded. There is a lot that has to be done. The people need more schools, more clinics, better roads, and better housing facilities. But these things have to go hand in hand with good living relations. In other words, there has to be respect of other people's property, the other person's life. The wanton killing cannot be condoned, either from the side of the police or from any other political organization.

[Bishop] But what about upgrading, if that is the right word, making the towns really nice places to live in? Mrs Suzman, it is said that the PFP is the party of the rich. I am thinking of privatization for a moment, and I was teasing you for a bit, you see. What would you say to that?

[Suzman] Well, I do not really think it is the duty of the private sector to provide all the housing that is required. I mean, they pay taxes, and the taxes should be used to that effect. And if I were the government, one of the first things I would do now would be to go in for a program of mass housing for lower income people. I think if the townships saw this mass housing project getting going all over the country, it would immediately have a defusing effect, and what is more would provide employment, which is very much needed at the present time.

[Bishop] Mr Wessels?

[Wessels] I think it is fair to say that there are a vast number of legitimate grievances, and this has to be tackled in a very imaginative and dramatic way.

[Bishop] Now, it has been suggested that as this is a time of reform — this is a suggestion made — then it is also a time of danger, because a reforming government is seen as being working from a position of weakness. What do you say to that, Mrs Suzman?

[Suzman] Well, I mean, I just think you have got to get on with putting the things right that need to be put right and there is such a backlog in so many things that I really would know where to start but I am not sure I would know where to end.

[Bishop] Mr Gogotya, suggestions now. Should the silent majority — whatever that may mean in the black townships — get together now and say look we have had enough regardless of whatever, we don't want anymore killing and burning. What is your comment?

[Gogotya] They do, and if they do the other radicals retaliate in violence by petrol bombs and stone-throwing which results in the other group being forced to defend themselves. We have had situations like that in the black townships where the moderates are forced to take up arms to defend themselves against the radicals, and this leads to more confrontation with police coming in to intervene and separate the two factions like it is happening now in the eastern Cape and other township, Leandra, where groups of blacks are standing up against each other and killing each other all for the sake of having a slice of the political [word indistinct].

[Bishop] People, I have to say quickly now, Mrs Suzman, it is a big one. How do we solve this?

[Suzman] Well again, you can solve it by trying to tackle the underlying grievances and that is quite a long-term project, I have to admit, but simply by putting, you know, more police and more army into the townships and hoping that way that you are

going to be able to restore peace is a very short-term policy indeed.

[Bishop] Mr Wessels?

[Wessels] I think we must get on with the reform program but it must be done in an atmospehre of law and order.

[Bishop] Mr Gogotya?

[Gogotya] The government must move ahead fast and gain the confidence of the blacks that whatever reforms they intend are genuine and meaningful.

[Bishop] Thank you all very much for joining in this debate.

'Thousands' of Gold, Coal Miners Go on Strike

MB251131 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1128 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 25, SAPA — Thousands of miners at the Vaal Reefs gold mine in Klerksdorp and at two collieries at Witbank have gone on strike, according to the National Union of Mineworkers [NUM].

The situation at Vaal Reefs was "extremely tense" after more than 12,000 mineworkers at shafts one, two and five refused to work today, after the arrest of eight in connection with the death of four team leaders last week, NUM said.

The rest of the Vaal Reefs miners were "poised to join the strike" and it was likely over 40,000 workers would be affected there, according to the union.

NUM said an "undisclosed number" of mineworkers at Wolvekrans colliery and more than 1,500 at Goedehoop colliery at Witbank had also gone on strike. No reason was given for the Wolvekrans action, but NUM said the strike at Goedehoop followed management's dismissal of four shaft stewards.

A spokesman for Anglo American confirmed in Johannesburg that the strike at Vaal Reefs was affecting one, two and five shafts, as well as the gold plant and engineering workshops. He told SAPA: "On Tuesday, February 18, four team leaders were brutally murdered and four others seriously injured after being attacked in their rooms at Vaal Reefs number five shaft hostel.

"Management is determined to ensure that the perpetrators of the murders and assaults are brought to justice as quickly as possible.

"In subsequent police investigations eight workers were yesterday detained for questioning (by police). The work stoppage which began last night ... apparently resulted from the taking into custody of the eight workers.

"Management of Vaal Reefs is talking to the workers and the National Union of Mineworkers to bring about a return to work, and expects their full assistance in the investigation."

The Anglo spokesman added that "head office is aware of a work stoppage at the Goedehoop colliery in Witbank," but said it had not received details.

The colliery management was trying to establish the reasons for the stoppage so that they could resolve difficulties and "have the men return to work as soon as possible."

Spokesmen for Rand Mines, owners of the Wolvekrans colliery, were not immediately available for comment.

NAMDA Advises of Rights of Unrest-Injured Patients

MB240657 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1746 GMT 23 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 23, SAPA — A large advertisment placed in this week's edition of the *WEEKLY MAIL* has advised doctors that divulging to police the names of particulars of patients injured during civil unrest is unethical.

The advertisment, placed in the February 21 edition of the newspaper by the National Medical and Dental Association (NAMDA), outlines the rights of unrest-injured patients and their doctors and comes in the wake of the recent violent disturbances in Alexandra, near Johannesburg.

During unrest in the township, in which at least 23 died, there were reports of confrontations between clinic staff and police who questioned doctors and nurses about certain patients in their care. At the time NAMDA accused the police of trying to force staff at the Alexandra health centre to hand over confidential information on patients. Police responded by saying they would question "whoever they see fit, including medical staff" during investigations.

The *WEEKLY MAIL* advertisement says medical staff are not required to report the presence of gunshot-injured patients. Even patients under arrest in hospital during civil unrest have normal common law privileges, unless they are held under laws prohibiting access of family and legal representatives to them, the advertisment says.

Hospitals are required by medical ethics to ensure that the families of unrest-injured patients be informed of their admission and condition. When such a patient is removed from hospital and placed in police custody, the family must likewise be informed, it says.

Detailed records of such patients must be kept by medical professionals treating them and should not be given to police without a subpoena or search warrant.

Medical staff should be given clear and written instructions about their relations with law enforcement officers, says the advertisement.

The name and particulars of unrest-injured patients constitute confidential information and the divulging of these to the police was unethical and constituted a punishable breach of patient confidentiality.

If police wish to remove such a patient before he or she is fit to be discharged, an indemnity form designed for this purpose must be filled in by a senior medical officer and a senior police officer.

In cases where the patient is removed against medical advice, a sealed report on the patient's condition addressed to the district surgeon must accompany the patient. Patients' families and legal representatives must also be informed immediately in such cases, says the advertisement.

Police Seize Medical Records at Alexandra Clinic

MB241430 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1427 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 24, SAPA — Police today seized about 175 medical records from the Alexandra clinic, the director, Dr Tim Wilson, said.

Dr Wilson said police arrived this morning with a search warrant and removed about 175 medical records, mostly of patients treated in the past week. These included records of people treated for gunshot wounds sustained in a week of clashes between police and Alexandra residents.

Dr Wilson said he protested strongly as the records were confidential and the seizure was done without his consent.

"I protested on ethical grounds. I think it will deter patients with gunshot wounds from coming to the clinic." He said he knew of children who cut out bullets themsleves with pen knives, rather than come to the clinic.

Dr Wilson said the police had visited him last Thursday and demanded medical records of people who had been treated for gunshot wounds. He declined and they issued him with a subpoena to appear in court this Wednesday. This morning, they withdrew the subpoena and produced a warrant to search the clinic.

The records were returned to the clinic about an hour and a half later.

A police spokesman said in Pretoria that police had taken the documents from the clinic, but had returned them almost immediately.

Dr Abu-Baker Asvat, health spokesman for the Azanian People's Organisation [AZAPO], said he had conducted a full day clinic with an AZAPO health team in Alexandra yesterday, but did not treat any bullet wound cases. He had heard the reason for this was that most people who had sustained bullet wounds had either left Alexandra to seek medical treatment elsewhere, were in hiding, or were treating themselves.

"We heard most victims have fled the township as they are reluctant to approach the local clinic for fear of a police raid. I treated a youngster yesterday with a grossly septic wound. His friend had removed a long thin object from his body," Dr Asvat said.

NAMDA Condemns Seizure

MB242040 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2034 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, Feb 24, SAPA — The National Medical and Dental Association [NAMDA] said today it was "shocked" by the police action at the Alexandra health centre yesterday [as received] where police removed 175 medical records of patients.

The centre's superintendant, Dr Tim Wilson, "who tried to oppose the police intervention, was not even given time to consult legal counsel," NAMDA said in a statement to SAPA. "No reasons for removal of the notes were given other than the production of a search warrant."

The association said "an essential premise of the doctor-patient relationship is absolute confidentiality. In all free societies this is recognised as a basic human right. As doctors who are dealing with unrest victims, we reject the implications that these injured people are criminals.

"We fear that the confidential information contained in these notes will be used for political reasons and for further harassment of these individuals. We commend and support the principle stand taken by the staff of Alexandra health centre," the association said.

Prominent Textile Trade Union Member Killed

MB240649 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0610 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 24, SAPA — A prominent member of the Textile Workers Industrial Union [TWIU] was shot and stabbed to death outside a bus stop in Cleremont near Pinetown yesterday. Mr Petrus Thusi (48) was on his way to work when he was attacked.

According to Mr Chris Chetty, organiser for the union, Mr Thusi worked for Pinetex mill in New Germany and was a senior shop steward of the TWIU.

His death has come as a great shock to us as he was a very active member. We do not know exactly the circumstances surrounding his death. However, we strongly believe he was murdered by members of a rival trade union, said Mr Chetty.

Mr Chetty alleged members of a rival trade union recently went to Mr Thusis' home and told her that one of these days she would be wearing black. [sentence as received] Police are investigating.

Soweto Students Burn Cars, Attack Motorists

MB241834 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1830 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Soweto, Feb 24, SAPA — Pupils from Morris Issacson High School in Soweto burned cars, attacked motorists and forced pupils out of their classrooms this afternoon. This followed a death of a teacher at the school, who died in a head-on collision

with a delivery vehicle in central western Jabavu. The teacher was allegedly riding home for lunch on his bicycle when the accident happened. He was rushed to hospital unconscious and was certified dead on arrival.

A group of pupils, enraged by the death of the teacher, attacked the driver on the vehicle and his crew with pangas, stones and knives and burned the vehicle. The men were rushed to Baragwanath hospital in a serious condition.

The pupils attacked other vehicles, forcing drivers to flee. The pupils then went from school to school, compelling secondary and primary pupils to leave their classes.

Police were called to the scene and dispersed the crowds with teargas, but no arrests were made.

40 Bonteheuwel Students Detained by Police
MB242015 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1959 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Cape Town, Feb 24, SAPA — Forty pupils, all members of the Bisco Student Organisation representing high schools in the Bonteheuwel area, were detained in a swoop by police today.

The pupils — 32 boys and eight girls — held a study workshop on the education crisis at the offices of the Advice Office Forum [AOF] in the Bonteheuwel town centre about 4pm. Police arrived and detained the 40 pupils and an adult man who was present. They were taken to Bishop Lavis police station and were being held under the emergency regulations. Police also took possession of a cabinet containing documents.

The detentions were condemned by the AOF and the Bonteheuwel area committee of the United Democratic Front who warned the actions would "add fuel to an already explosive situation in our area."

"It could lead to a possible school boycott in protest and also to a stirring up of violence in our area once again. We demand their immediate and unconditional release."

Major T. Crafford, a spokesman for the public relations division of the SA Police in Pretoria, confirmed the detentions and said they were "as a result of subversive pamphlets that were found in the office". He said the pupils were scholars at schools in the Athlone area and described the remaining detainee as "a coloured man who is not a scholar".

Police Deny Knowledge of Atteridgeville Sjambokking
MB240923 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0915 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 24, SAPA — The police division of public relations today denied any knowledge of incidents in which security forces sjambokked mourners during a funeral at Atteridgeville near Pretoria on Saturday.

According to a news report, security forces arrived at the home of an unrest victim, Mr Isaac Matome, 22, who was being buried. Mr Matome was killed last week during a stayaway in the township. The report said the women in charge of food at the funeral fled from their pots when the security forces arrived at the home of the dead man, injuring some of the mourners.

It said that after the cortege had left for the cemetery, security forces wielding sjamboks and batons entered the dead man's home and hit men and women.

A spokesman for the division, asked to comment, denied any knowledge of the incidents.

"Because of the restrictions imposed by the magistrate in connection with funerals in the area over the weekend, the police were present to monitor the situation and to ensure that the restrictions were adhered to," he added.

Police Issue Early 25 Feb Unrest Report
MB250623 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0616 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 25, SAPA — Herewith SAP unrest situation report to 8am today:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand] a bus was extensively damaged by arsonists and another slightly damaged when it was stoned.

"At Bonteheuwel (coloured residential area) near Cape Town the SAP arrested 33 men and eight women at an illegal gathering. A but was slightly damaged by arsonists.

"At Port Elizabeth the following incidents occurred:

"At Zwide slight damage was caused when a police vehicle was petrol-bombed. The Nongogo primary school in New Brighton was slightly damaged by arsonists. At Kwazakele a woman was burned to death when a home was set alight.

"At Langa near Uitenhage extensive damage was caused when a private home was set alight."

End report.

Eglin Announces PFP's New 'Shadow Cabinet'
MB211118 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1057 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 21, SAPA — A bigger team of Progressive Federal Party [PFP] spokesman on constitutional development and planning matters and a return of Mr Philip Myburgh to the defence post are the major changes in the PFP's restructured parliamentary portfolio allocation, announced today by the acting leader, Mr Colin Eglin.

The allocation of a number of spokesmen to Mr Chris Heunis' department to deal with constitutional affairs, administration of black affairs, with a regional breakdown, and planning, had been decided on to cope with the increased workload the ministers "new empire" had created, Mr Eglin said at a press conference in Cape Town.

Professor Nic Olivier, formerly Mr Eglin's number two on constitutional issues, takes this portfolio, while administration of black affairs, excluding homelands and education, falls under Mrs Helen Suzman, and Mr Mike Tarr will deal with planning.

Administration of black affairs in "white" South Africa was shifted last year from the minister of education and development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, to Mr Heunis' department.

The restructuring of the PFP's "shadow cabinet," became necessary following the resignations recently of the party leader, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, and Dr Alex Boraine, MP for Pinelands.

Following is a list of the portfolio allocations:

Department	Spokesman	Alternate
1. **State President**	C.W. Eglin	H. Suzman
(a) **Bureau of Information**	P. Soal	R Burrows
2. **Administration and Advisory Services**	R. Sive	R. Burrows
3. **Transport Affairs**	J. Malcomess	R. Sive
4 **Constitutional Development and Planning**:		
(a) Constitutional Affairs	N. Olivier	B. Bamford
(b) Administration of Black Affairs (excluding homeland and education)	H. Suzman	E. Moorcroft
Regional Allocation:		
Witwatersrand	H. Suzman	
Rest of Transvaal	P. Soal	
Natal	G. Mcintosh	
E. Cape/Border	E. Moorcroft	
W. Cape	K. Andrew	
(c) Planning	M. Tarr	P. Cronje
5. **Foreign Affairs**	C. Eglin	R. Swart
6. **National Education**	H.v.Rensburg	R. Burrows
7. **Law and Order**	H. Suzman	S.v.d.Merwe
8. **Communications & Public Works** (including housing)	A. Widman	P. Cronje
9. **Education & Development Aid**		
(a) Education and Training	K. Andrew	R. Burrows
(b) Development Aid	R. Swart	G. Mcintosh
10. **Defence**	P. Myburgh	P. Gastrow
11. **Manpower**	P. Gastrow	A. Savage
12. **Trade and Industry**	A Savage	R. Hulley
13. **Justice**	D. Dalling	R. Swart
14. **Agricultural Economics & Water Affairs**	E. Moorcroft	M. Tarr
15. **Mineral & Energy Affairs**	B. Goodall	J.Malcomess
16. **Finance**	H. Schwarz	B. Goodall
18. [as received] **Home Affairs**	S.v.d.Merwe	P. Soal
19. **National Health & Population Development**	M. Barnard	G. Mcintosh
Own Affairs		
20. **Chairman, Assembly and Budget**	H. Schwarz	A. Widman
21. **Agriculture & Water Supply**	M. Tarr	G. Mcintosh
22. **Local Government, Housing and Works**	A. Widman	P. Cronje
23. **Health Services & Welfare**	M. Barnard	G. Mcintosh
24. **Education and Culture**	H.v.Rensburg	R. Burrows
Spokesmen of Special Issues:		
25. Prisons	H. Suzman	
26. Consumer Affairs	H. Schwarz	
27. Media	D. Dalling	
28. Sport	M. Tarr	

ZIMBABWE

73 MNR 'Bandits' Handed Over to Mozambique

MB241929 Harare THE HERALD in English 15 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] Mutare — The government has arrested 73 South African-backed MNR bandits and handed them over to Mozambique, the Minister of State (Security) Cde [Comrade] Emmerson Munangagwa, has said.

The bandits were detected after careful screening of displaced Mozambicans. "Those MNR bandits entering Zimbabwe on a permanent basis do so in a clandestine manner, under the guise of displaced persons, and for the most part, are deserters who are hiding out," Cde Munangagwa said.

He said that after successful operations by the security forces the Machipanda-Beira route was 100 percent safe with the railway line, pipeline and road functioning normally. The minister said that the road to Kuchamano through Zobue was functioning, although there were intermittent incidents involving bandits.

"The Chicualacuala route is not functioning," he said.

The MNR had disrupted the movement of Zimbabwe's imports and exports to and from Mozambican ports. About 5 percent of the country's foreign trade traffic passed through Mozambique with the rest going through South Africa.

Due to bandit activities the Chicualacuala/Maputo route had been closed to traffic since August 1984. Last year the Machipanda/Beira route was sabotaged six times, resulting in 24 working days being lost. The line through South Africa to Maputo was sabotaged seven times resulting in the loss of 100 working days.

"The pipeline was sabotaged twice during 1985 and the second incident resulted in the loss of 700 cubic metres of diesel for Zimbabwe. Each working day lost results in high costs in demurrage and storage charges on Zimbabwean exporters and importers," Cde Munangagwa said.

The disorganisation caused by the MNR bandits had prompted the government to deploy troops, police and paramilitary person-

nel to deter MNR bandits from entering Zimbabwe. "Our security forces have done this quite successfully, although from time to time small groups of armed MNR had crossed into this country to steal from stores, rob local residents and rustle cattle," the minister said.

To date there had been no MNR attacks on either strategic or tactical targets within Zimbabwe. Neither had they sought confrontation with the security forces.

The minister said 1985 had been a very successful year for the security forces in their fight against the South African-sponsored bandits. The year marked an increase in the commitment of the security forces to defend the lines of communication through Mozambique and to help the Mozambicans in their struggle against MNR bandits.

The joint operations were highly successful and resulted in the disruption of the bandit command structure in the Central Province of Mozambique. Seventy-two bandits were killed in contacts with security forces in the Mozambican operational areas and a number of others captured during last year.

Cde Munangagwa said the security forces would continue to give full support to the Mozambicans in their struggle to free themselves from South African-supported bandits "no matter what the sacrifice".

Security Forces Kill 'Bandit' in Nkai Area
MB240539 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] A police spokesman reports that security forces have shot and killed a bandit in the Nkai communal lands. The spokesman says an AK rifle, ammunition, medical syringes and two diaries were recovered at the scene. Followup operations are underway.